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Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Kyrgyzstan

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, held its twenty-first session from 19 to 30 January 2015. The review of Kyrgyzstan was held at the 1st meeting on 19 January 2015. The delegation of Kyrgyzstan was headed by the Vice Prime Minister of Kyrgyzstan, Abdyrakman Mamataliev. At its 10th meeting, held on 23 January 2015, the Working Group adopted the report on Kyrgyzstan.

2. On 13 January 2015, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Kyrgyzstan: Montenegro, Morocco and the United Arab Emirates.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Kyrgyzstan:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/21/KGZ/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/21/KGZ/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/21/KGZ/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, the Czech Republic, Germany, Norway, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America was transmitted to Kyrgyzstan through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the universal periodic review (UPR).

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The delegation reaffirmed the commitment of Kyrgyzstan to the promotion and protection of human rights. Democratization and the protection of human rights remained a national priority. Since its first review in 2010, Kyrgyzstan had reaffirmed its adherence to democratic change. During the reporting period, the country had faced serious challenges, testing the strength of national unity. Despite those challenges, Kyrgyzstan had managed to maintain stability.

6. Kyrgyzstan had taken the path of building parliamentary democracy. To that end, a new Constitution had been adopted and a coalition Government formed. A tradition of peaceful transfer of power had been established thanks to the democratic elections of October, 2011. The Government recognized that holding fair and transparent parliamentary elections in 2015 would be an important factor in ensuring the stability of the country.

7. The delegation highlighted the Government's commitment to strengthening the rule of law and democratic institutions. Fully aware of the existing human rights issues, the Government had strengthened its efforts to improve the respect of human rights and of the rule of law in past years. Substantive work had been done to bring legislation into conformity with the Constitution and international human rights standards.

8. The Constitution was adopted by referendum in 2010 in an open and transparent process of constitutional reform. The Constitution affirmed the principle of the rule of law, guaranteed the principles of separation of powers and the independence of courts, and established safeguards for the protection of human rights.

9. The norms enshrined in the Constitution asserted the utmost importance of human rights and freedoms. International human rights instruments were directly applicable and took precedence over other international agreements.

10. The delegation explained that the independence of the judiciary was guaranteed by the Constitution and judges were independent and subordinate only to the Constitution and the law. Citizens were entitled to judicial protection and to legal aid in cases prescribed by law. Kyrgyzstan had intensified efforts to create the institution of a grand jury so the citizens could take part in the administration of justice.

11. The judicial system continued to face various challenges. The Judicial Reform Council, an advisory and consultative body, had been set up to coordinate the priority measures of the judicial reform. The Council of Judges had developed the comprehensive National Programme for the Development of the Judicial System 2013–2017, which provided a thorough analysis and specific recommendations related to key issues of the judiciary and of access to justice.

12. In 2010, the country had experienced ethnic conflict in the south of the country that resulted in casualties. The Government managed to stabilize the situation and stopped the conflict. The Government had implemented a policy framework for harmonization of inter-ethnic relations and for long-term integration. The National Sustainable Development Strategy 2013–2017 and the Policy Framework on Strengthening National Unity and Inter-Ethnic Relations had been developed and adopted through open and wide discussion of the situation after the 2010 conflict.

13. The process of improving the electoral legislation before the 2015 parliamentary elections had aimed to improve the representation of women and ethnic minorities in elected bodies by applying a quota to candidate lists.

14. The delegation highlighted the establishment of the Human Rights Coordinating Council, attached to the Government as an interministerial consultative and advisory body. The Coordinating Council was authorized, inter alia, to conduct regular monitoring of the human rights situation, take measures to implement recommendations of international human rights bodies, engage with civil society and other stakeholders and to discuss and develop recommendations in order to ensure the protection of human rights in the country.

15. Following the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OPCAT) in 2008, the National Centre for the Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment had been established. That national preventive mechanism consisted of representatives of civil society, the Ombudsman and the Parliament. The Centre had been facing some challenges, including a lack of sufficient funding for its effective functioning. Despite the challenges, two offices of the Centre had already been opened.

16. An interministerial working group had been established for the preparation of the national report for the second cycle of UPR. Legal and comparative analysis of law and practice as well as an analysis of root causes of human rights violations had been conducted in the process of the preparation of the national report. The national report documented achievements and remaining challenges.

17. The Government had followed the recommendations that were put forward during the 2010 review calling for an open and transparent process of constitutional reform and

strong human rights provisions in the Constitution. In the framework of the follow-up to UPR, the Children's Code had been adopted to strengthen the national child protection system. Additionally, the Peaceful Assembly Act had been adopted in line with the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). The national report provided information about measures undertaken to combat gender-based violence, bride-kidnapping and trafficking in human beings, and about the impact of anti-corruption initiatives.

18. The delegation pointed out that the report had been prepared during a process of wide-ranging national consultations that had included representatives of State bodies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The Government planned to discuss new methods and approaches for the implementation of the recommendations of the review.

19. Since the establishment of the Human Rights Coordinating Council in 2013, the issue of a standing invitation to the special procedure mandate holders was being discussed within the relevant government bodies.

20. The delegation reiterated the firm commitment of Kyrgyzstan to improving the human rights protection system and ensuring the compliance of national law with the international human rights system. UPR was not a one-off event but a continuous process and required determined efforts by the Government.

21. Kyrgyzstan had presented its candidacy for membership of the Human Rights Council for the period 2016–2018. The Regional Office for Central Asia of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) had been established in Bishkek. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights had visited Kyrgyzstan during the reporting period. Kyrgyzstan cooperated actively with the United Nations treaty bodies and submitted its reports to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Human Rights Committee, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Committee against Torture and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

22. The delegation provided its responses to advance questions. In respect of the ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC), Kyrgyzstan had been following the work of ICC and some additional time was required for it to become confident in the effectiveness of the Court before making a final decision on the ratification of the Rome Statute. At the same time, the national legislation envisaged criminal responsibility for crimes against humanity.

23. Regarding the questions on a standing invitation to the special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council, the delegation highlighted the continuing cooperation of Kyrgyzstan with mandate holders. It recalled that, in the past 14 years, eight special mandate holders had visited Kyrgyzstan, and two special rapporteurs had paid a visit during the reporting period. Kyrgyzstan had agreed in principle to the visits of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances and the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association. The Government was looking forward to those visits and the date of the visits depended on the proposals of the special procedure mandate holders.

24. Kyrgyzstan was a party to eight out of the nine core human rights treaties. The authorities has taken measures to study thoroughly the possibility and implications of ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (ICPPED), the only core international human rights instrument that Kyrgyzstan had not yet signed. In that respect, the upcoming visit of the Working Group on Enforced Disappearance or Involuntary Disappearances would be important.

25. In 2014, the Government had updated the National Action Plan on the Prevention and Reduction of Statelessness, which included specific actions for the ratification of the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and for harmonization of the legislation with the relevant international standards. The Government had been jointly implementing a project with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to register stateless persons and persons without identity documents. More than two dozen mobile units had been operating in rural areas, providing legal advice on how to apply for citizenship or for obtaining relevant documents free of charge.

26. Kyrgyzstan recognized the competency of the Human Rights Committee and CEDAW to consider and examine individual complaints. Pursuant to the Code of Criminal Procedure, a decision of an international body constituted grounds for reopening criminal proceedings in the light of new circumstances surrounding a case. Kyrgyzstan had been working to develop a methodology for implementing the decisions of the United Nations human rights bodies on individual complaints.

27. The parliament had an important role in the realization of human rights, through monitoring human rights issues and cooperating closely with the Human Rights Coordinating Council, the national preventive mechanism, the Ombudsman, civil society and the international organizations.

28. The parliament had established a working group within the Parliamentary Committee for Human Rights, Constitutional Law and State Structure in order to study and discuss different versions of draft amendments to the Law on the Ombudsman submitted by the Office of the Ombudsman and several members of the parliament.

29. Recognizing the importance of the freedom of religion and belief, the Government had set up a working group to revise State policy on the freedom of religion. In 2014, the Constitutional Chamber of the Supreme Court had removed from the legislation, declaring it unconstitutional, a provision which made the registration of religious organizations subject to the approval of local authorities. That would considerably simplify the process of registration of religious organizations. The parliament had been paying special attention to and had taken measures for the enjoyment of freedom of religion by individuals.

30. Regarding the bill on the prohibition on the formation of positive attitudes towards lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) persons, the delegation stated that the bill had been widely discussed within the society and by the parliament. Different views, including negative and critical comments, had been expressed by members of the parliament and by civil society representatives. A working group had been established under the relevant parliamentary committee to study international experience and expertise on that issue and to suggest relevant amendments to the draft law. The parliament was committed to law-making through the process of wide and thorough discussions with relevant stakeholders.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

31. During the interactive dialogue, 73 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

32. Sri Lanka commended Kyrgyzstan for establishing the Human Rights Coordinating Council and for facilitating the visits of the Special Rapporteurs on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. It noted the National Development Programme for the Development of the Judicial System and the National Sustainable Development Strategy. It made recommendations.

33. Sweden noted that inter-ethnic reconciliation and greater representation of ethnic minorities were priorities. It noted with concern violence against and slander of LGBT persons, and the draft legislation on "dissemination of information about non-traditional sexual relations". Sweden encouraged training on LGBT issues. It made recommendations.

34. Switzerland expressed concerns about draft legislation regarding foreign sources of financing of NGOs and that human rights NGOs became victims of defamation. It commended the establishment of the national mechanism against torture following the ratification of OPCAT. Switzerland made recommendations.

35. Tajikistan noted the positive changes in the promotion and protection of human rights, and the readiness of Kyrgyzstan to cooperate with the international human rights mechanisms. Tajikistan made recommendations.

36. Thailand commended the adoption of the Constitution and welcomed efforts to ratify international human rights instruments. It noted the legislative reform to ensure gender equality. However, early marriage, bride-kidnapping and violence against women persisted. Thailand made recommendations.

37. Timor-Leste noted with appreciation the establishment of the Human Rights Coordinating Council to enforce the implementation of international human rights obligations, and of the National Council on Gender Issues. It remained concerned by the widespread violence against women.Timor-Leste made recommendations.

38. Turkey noted the efforts of Kyrgyzstan to improve the human rights situation, as well as its cooperation with international human rights mechanisms. It commended Kyrgyzstan on its determination to combat corruption and highlighted a new move to finalize legislative initiatives in that respect. Turkey made recommendations.

39. Turkmenistan welcomed efforts to strengthen legislative, institutional and policy mechanisms to protect human rights, and the adoption of the Children's Code in 2012. It appreciated the amendments to the Civil and Criminal Codes. Turkmenistan made recommendations.

40. The United Kingdom commended Kyrgyzstan for its adoption of a new Constitution. It encouraged Kyrgyzstan to ensure full respect for the Constitution and its international human rights commitments and complete the judicial reform in order to provide access to justice for all, including for those affected by the 2010 violence. It made recommendations.

41. The United States of America noted several legislative initiatives that threatened to jeopardize the democratic achievements of Kyrgyzstan. It remained concerned by the limited progress towards reconciliation of ethnic groups following the 2010 ethnic violence, and the disproportionate prosecution and conviction of ethnic Uzbeks for that violence. It made recommendations.

42. Uruguay welcomed the adoption of the 2010 Constitution, guaranteeing the separation of powers and the rule of law. It noted that several international mechanisms had requested the Government to strengthen the fight against torture and against discrimination. Uruguay made recommendations.

43. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela welcomed the establishment of the Human Rights Coordinating Council and highlighted the efforts of Kyrgyzstan to ensure gender equality and to improve the situation of the most vulnerable groups. It made recommendations.

44. Viet Nam noted steps taken by Kyrgyzstan to resolve recent conflicts among communities and hoped that those efforts could be strengthened. It noted efforts to protect

the rights of persons belonging to vulnerable groups, especially women and children. Viet Nam made recommendations.

45. Afghanistan commended Kyrgyzstan on the adoption of a new Constitution incorporating human rights provisions and of strategies related to the protection of human rights. It noted draft legislation intended to bring the Ombudsman into full conformity with the Paris Principles. Afghanistan made a recommendation.

46. Albania welcomed the establishment of the Human Rights Coordinating Council in 2013 to enforce the implementation of international human rights obligations, as well as the enhanced cooperation with OHCHR. Albania made recommendations.

47. Algeria noted the improvements in the legal framework for the rights of the child, peaceful assembly, the fight against torture and human trafficking. It noted with satisfaction steps taken for human rights education for State agents. Algeria made recommendations.

48. Angola commended the special attention given to gender equality and to protection of children's rights. It recognized the efforts for the creation of the National Programme for the Development of the Judicial System 2014–2017. Angola made a recommendation.

49. Argentina appreciated the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR. It noted challenges that remained regarding the situation of minority groups. It expressed concern about refoulement of refugees and asylum seekers to their countries of origin. Argentina made recommendations.

50. Armenia noted efforts to promote the rights of women and children, including to combat early marriage, eradicate poverty, combat human trafficking and protect the rights of minorities. Armenia made recommendations.

51. Australia noted with concern the reports of abuses in relation to ethnic tensions. It called for effective implementation of the laws prohibiting discrimination and providing for freedom of expression and religion. Further work was needed to implement laws protecting women. Australia made recommendations.

52. Austria expressed concern about torture and ill-treatment in police detention; violence, harassment and discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation; the parliament's consideration of so-called "anti-gay propaganda" and the "foreign agents" bills; and violence against women. It made recommendations.

53. Bangladesh appreciated efforts to empower women and to reduce poverty. It recalled the concern expressed by CRC about the growing number of children placed in care institutions owing to poverty and about the growing number of HIV/AIDS infections. Bangladesh made recommendations.

54. Belarus noted the efforts to improve national legislation and the measures implemented to ensure the protection and promotion of human rights. It noted the adoption of the Social Protection Development Strategy, the National Strategy for Gender Equality and its related plan and the State programme to combat human trafficking. Belarus made recommendations.

55. Belgium commended efforts the abolition of the death penalty and progress on freedom of expression. It stated that additional efforts were needed to consolidate progress, noting the importance of freedom of expression and association. Belgium made recommendations.

56. Bhutan appreciated reforms initiated to implement the UPR recommendations, particularly measures taken to reform the judicial system in order to ensure its impartiality and independence. It commended Kyrgyzstan for setting out the legal and organizational basis for combating corruption. It made a recommendation.

57. Brazil commended the adoption of a new Constitution, the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR and the signing of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), as recommended by Brazil during the 2010 review. It encouraged Kyrgyzstan to develop policies and programmes to alleviate and eradicate poverty. It made recommendations.

58. Canada requested information on the implementation of the accepted recommendation it had put forward regarding the review and strengthening of existing legislation to combat violence against women and discrimination on any grounds. Canada made recommendations.

59. Chile acknowledged recent legislative reforms and the accession to various human rights instruments. It took note of the information provided by the Government regarding the challenges posed by the harmonization of legislation, the Constitution and treaties. Chile made recommendations.

60. China commended Kyrgyzstan for efforts to promote gender equality and to combat human trafficking and sexual violence. Efforts had been taken to promote the harmonious coexistence of ethnic groups, multilingual education, cultural heritage and ethnic diversity. It made a recommendation.

61. Costa Rica highlighted reforms strengthening human rights protection mechanisms. It welcomed the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR and the signing of CRPD. It noted the importance of an independent judiciary and of freedom of expression and association. It made recommendations.

62. The delegation explained that the purpose of the new amendment to the Criminal Code criminalizing the dissemination of statements about the commission of crimes had been to prevent false statements being made knowingly about the commission of crimes. The Constitutional Chamber of the Supreme Court had ruled that the amendment was not in conflict with the provisions of the Constitution.

63. In response to questions regarding the draft law on reporting requirements of NGOs receiving funding from foreign sources, the delegation explained that several deputies of the parliament had initiated the draft law with the aim of ensuring transparency in the functioning of non-profit organizations. Representatives of civil society and international organizations had expressed concern that the draft law imposed unjustified restrictions on the exercise of NGOs' freedom of association and thus was incompatible with international human rights standards and the Constitution. In view thereof, the Parliamentary Committee for Human Rights, Constitutional Law and State Structure had held a parliamentary hearing on the draft law and had compiled recommendations for additions and changes to be made before its adoption.

64. All draft laws directly affecting the rights and interest of citizens had been subject to thorough consideration and wide discussion, taking into account the opinions of human rights experts.

65. The delegation reported on the reform of the law enforcement agencies that had been carried out in order to bring law enforcement work into line with international human rights standards and to establish an effective system for maintaining public order and security. In the framework of the reform, new criteria for assessing the work of the law enforcement agencies had been developed with the active participation of civil society representatives, and an internal and external monitoring system had been put in place to ensure transparency and accountability in the work of the law enforcement agencies. Reforming the Academy attached to the Ministry of Affairs, in particular improving its curriculum and teaching methods, had been identified as a key factor for the effective implementation of a new model for the work of the law enforcement agencies. New procedures and processes for the

recruitment and promotion of police officers had been developed in cooperation with civil society. The reform's objectives included the formation of a multi-ethnic police force and gender equality within the law enforcement agencies. Nevertheless, significant work still remained to be carried out in cooperation with civil society and international organizations, as the reform was in its initial stage of implementation.

66. Regarding questions on domestic violence, the Ministry of Internal Affairs had developed instructions and regulations to organize the law enforcement bodies to prevent domestic violence effectively and implement the Social and Legal Protection against Domestic Violence Act. Amendments to the Administrative Code had also been drafted and adopted at the initiative of the Ministry of Interior in order to ensure harsher administrative penalties for domestic violence, including administrative detention up to five days. A memorandum of understanding had been signed between the Ministry of Internal Affairs and crisis centres to organize their cooperation in combating domestic violence and bride-kidnapping. The delegation referred to the significant increase in registered cases of domestic violence in the period 2010–2014, owing to the effective response of police officers and the cooperation established between local authorities, social and health workers and civil society representatives.

67. The legal amendments to the Criminal Code provided harsher punishments for the abduction of women and girls for the purpose of marriage, as well as for the forced marriage of girls. Those legal amendments had been drafted during extensive consultations with civil society representatives and international organizations.

68. Several measures had been taken to: ensure unhindered access to justice; protect defence lawyers, witnesses and victims against threats and harassment during trials, including those related to the 2010 ethnic conflict; and ensure public security and stability after the violent events of June 2010. In that respect, a special unit within the Ministry of Interior Affairs had been established for the protection of the rights of witnesses.

69. Torture had become a criminal offence in 2003. However, no one had been prosecuted for the crime of torture. The reason was that the occurrence of torture in Kyrgyzstan had been recognized at all levels only in 2010. Consequently, a number of measures had been undertaken to combat torture and ill-treatment since 2010, in particular the inclusion of anti-torture provisions in the Constitution and the adoption of the National Plan to Combat Torture. Monitoring by the Prosecutor's Office to uncover cases of torture and ill-treatment had been strengthened and the Prosecutor's Office now conducted systematic and unannounced visits to places of deprivation of liberty. A harsher penalty had been established for torture, which had become a serious crime in law. Methodology and instructions had been developed on how to investigate effectively cases of torture and ill-treatment. Almost all temporary detention sites and investigation cells had been equipped with cameras for internal monitoring.

70. An important means of combating torture was the Memorandum on Cooperation in Protecting Human Rights and Freedoms, signed in 2012 by the Ombudsman, the Procurator-General, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Justice, the State Penal Correction Service, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and human rights organizations. The signatories of the memorandum were entitled to carry out joint visits to places of deprivation of liberty throughout the country without prior authorization. The preventive measures had resulted in a decrease in reported cases of torture and ill-treatment in 2013 and in 2014 as compared to previous years.

71. Several legal acts had been adopted to combat terrorism and extremism, given the serious threats to public security, and sanctions against persons committing such crimes had been stepped up. Nevertheless, the respective laws and regulations set clear rules and conditions for the use of force and firearms by State security officers.

72. Croatia encouraged Kyrgyzstan to ratify CRPD and issue a standing invitation to the special procedure mandate holders. It welcomed legislation that increased penalties for bride-kidnapping and asked about action taken to fight discrimination and violence against LGBT persons. Croatia made recommendations.

73. Cuba noted with appreciation that Kyrgyzstan considered UPR as a mechanism promoting dialogue between the Government and civil society. It noted progress in education and child protection. Greater efforts to fight poverty were necessary. Cuba made recommendations.

74. The Czech Republic appreciated the information provided on the implementation of recommendation it had put forward during the 2010 UPR. It made recommendations.

75. Denmark expressed concern about attacks and threats against, and harassment of, civil society activists and human rights defenders, and that their space might be restricted by the draft legislation currently under consideration. Denmark made recommendations.

76. Estonia called on Kyrgyzstan to: ratify CRPD; give more attention to violence against women and children; refrain from adopting any legislation that would impose restrictions on foreign funding of NGOs; and implement the action plan on the prevention of torture. Estonia made recommendations.

77. Finland expressed concern at the bills on foreign agent NGOs and on limiting information on non-traditional sexual orientations and inquired about the status of those bills. Finland made recommendations.

78. France commended Kyrgyzstan on the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR. France made recommendations.

79. Germany welcomed the establishment of a national preventive mechanism. It was encouraged by the draft legislation to strengthen the Constitutional Court and asked for its adoption timelines. Germany made recommendations.

80. Ghana commended Kyrgyzstan on the adoption of a new Constitution including significant human rights provisions. It welcomed the establishment of the National Council on Gender Issues. Ghana made recommendations.

81. Hungary commended the establishment of a national preventive mechanism. It expressed concern about the use of torture; the large number of child labourers, many of whom worked under hazardous conditions; and the bills which aimed to restrict the activities of NGOs. Hungary made recommendations.

82. India welcomed achievements in strengthening the legal and institutional framework. It encouraged measures for the participation of women in all sectors. It noted the Children's Code and initiatives such as "a school without violence". India asked about the impact of anti-corruption laws and programmes. India made recommendations.

83. Indonesia noted the special attention given to the prevention of torture, and the establishment of the National Plan to Combat Torture and the National Centre for the Prevention of Torture. Indonesia made recommendations.

84. Iraq valued the great efforts of Kyrgyzstan to promote and protect human rights. It welcomed legislative initiatives, including the adoption of the Criminal Code and the Administrative Liability Code. Iraq made a recommendation.

85. Ireland encouraged Kyrgyzstan to extend a standing invitation to all the special procedures. It was concerned by the reports of intimidation, reprisals and threats against human rights defenders. Ireland made recommendations.

86. Japan commended the efforts to improve the human rights situation under the new Constitution guaranteeing basic human rights. It was concerned at the inter-ethnic feuds, as well as cases of bride kidnapping, polygamous unions and early marriages. Japan made recommendations.

87. Jordan commended Kyrgyzstan on its efforts to further promote and protect human rights and on strengthening legislation through the adoption of a number of laws, such as the Anti-Corruption Act, the Criminal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure. Jordan made recommendations.

88. Kazakhstan noted with appreciation the efforts to bring legislation into line with the Constitution, the adoption of laws aimed at ensuring better protection of children and women, and the establishment of the National Centre for the Prevention of Torture. Kazakhstan made recommendations.

89. Kenya commended Kyrgyzstan on its cooperation with the United Nations human rights mechanisms. It acknowledged the efforts to address torture, including the establishment of the National Centre for the Prevention of Torture. Kenya made a recommendation.

90. Kuwait commended the efforts to implement previous UPR recommendations and to improve the human rights situation. It appreciated the establishment of the Human Rights Coordinating Council. Kuwait made recommendations.

91. Latvia welcomed the steps taken to promote and protect the rights of women, including the National Strategy for Gender Equality. However, Latvia remained concerned about the violence against women and, in particular, forced marriage and domestic violence. Latvia made recommendations.

92. Lithuania commended the Government's efforts to harmonize national laws with the Constitution and international human rights norms. It made recommendations.

93. Malaysia encouraged Kyrgyzstan to pursue its efforts to bring the Office of the Ombudsman into conformity with the Paris Principles. It noted efforts to restore constitutional order and the rule of law after the revolution in April 2010. Malaysia made a recommendation.

94. Mauritania noted with appreciation legislative measures to protect human rights, and efforts to eliminate poverty and to combat violence against women. It encouraged Kyrgyzstan to continue its efforts to enhance social and economic development.

95. Mexico welcomed the submission of outstanding reports to treaty bodies and the human rights provisions in the new Constitution. It noted the adoption of the new law on freedom of peaceful assembly. Mexico made recommendations.

96. Montenegro welcomed the institutional changes for the protection of vulnerable groups. It asked about legislative measures that Kyrgyzstan had taken to criminalize the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and about steps taken for the protection of women's rights. Montenegro made recommendations.

97. Morocco commended Kyrgyzstan for the importance it had given to the independence of the judiciary, human rights education for judges, the fight against torture, efforts for the protection of the rights of vulnerable populations and measures to prevent and suppress human trafficking. Morocco made recommendations.

98. Namibia commended the establishment of the Human Rights Coordinating Council and the National Council on Gender Issues, as well as the inclusion of human rights provisions in the Constitution. It also noted the advancement in freedom of expression and assembly. Namibia made recommendations.

99. The Netherlands appreciated the adoption of the Constitution and the implementation of the UPR recommendations on the prevention of torture, violence against women and combating corruption. It was concerned about legislative initiatives negatively affecting the space for civil society, in particular LGBT persons. The Netherlands made recommendations.

100. Nicaragua noted efforts made to consolidate democracy and the rule of law through the adoption of institutional and legislative changes. It welcomed the adoption of the National Sustainable Development Strategy 2013–2017. Nicaragua made recommendations.

101. Norway noted the constitutional reform in 2010 and the presidential and parliamentary elections as significant steps towards democracy. Norway was concerned about the lack of impartial investigation and fair prosecution regarding the events of June 2010. Norway made recommendations.

102. Pakistan stated that the amendments to the Civil Code, the Administrative Liability Code, the Criminal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure, judicial reforms and the Social Protection Development Strategy would make further contributions to strengthening human rights. Pakistan made recommendations.

103. Paraguay commended Kyrgyzstan on the new Constitution guaranteeing freedom of conscience and religion. It encouraged the Government to continue supporting the victims of the 2010 conflict. Paraguay made recommendations.

104. The Philippines noted with appreciation the restoration of law and order following the events of 2010; the improvement in the normative and legislative infrastructure and the advancement of the protection of the rights of children. It noted challenges in combating human trafficking and the need to continue addressing discrimination against minorities. The Philippines made recommendations.

105. Poland noted efforts to implement recommendations from the first review; the incorporation of human rights provisions in national legislation; and the increase in the sentence for bride-kidnapping. Further work was needed to address gender-based violence. It made recommendations.

106. Portugal noted the adoption of the Children's Code, but expressed concern about the reports of abuse of children in families, alternative care settings and schools, as well as increasing cases of sexual violence. It made recommendations.

107. The Republic of Korea acknowledged the advancements made in human rights in the face of social and political changes. It welcomed the establishment of the Human Rights Coordinating Council, the reform of the judicial system and the initiative to eliminate domestic violence. It made recommendations.

108. The Republic of Moldova requested information on the establishment of a juvenile justice system in accordance with international standards. It acknowledged the progress in combating violence against women, but shared the concerns of the United Nations human rights mechanisms that the issue remained widespread. It made a recommendation.

109. Romania acknowledged that the Government cooperated with the United Nations. It added that, while progress had been made, Kyrgyzstan had to take further steps in the promotion of human rights. Romania made recommendations.

110. The Russian Federation noted the successful implementation of the United Nations human rights treaties; the efforts to develop a legislative and institutional framework for the protection of human rights; and the positive impact of the efforts aimed at protecting the rights of the child. It made recommendations.

111. Serbia stated that the use of torture and the lack of justice for victims should be further addressed. It also noted the discrimination and intolerance towards marginalized groups. Serbia made recommendations.

112. Sierra Leone commended Kyrgyzstan for the progress made in promoting human rights. It expressed concern at the high incidence of child abuse, early marriage and sexual exploitation of children, as well as discrimination on religious grounds. Sierra Leone made recommendations.

113. Slovenia welcomed the accession of Kyrgyzstan to the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR. It expressed concern that the legal framework of the presidential elections was inconsistent with the Constitution. Challenges remained with regard to the investigation of attacks on journalists. Slovenia made recommendations.

114. Spain praised the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR as well as the legislative reforms to improve the situation of women. It was concerned about the legal initiatives resulting in discrimination based on sexual orientation. Spain made recommendations.

115. Regarding the questions on the protection of children, the delegation stated that Kyrgyzstan had become the first country in Central Asia to adopt a Children's Code providing guarantees and procedures for the protection of children, including vulnerable groups such as children living in difficult circumstances and children in conflict with the law. The Coordination Council on Juvenile Justice attached to the Government had been established.

116. In conclusion, the delegation thanked the State representatives for their active participation in and contribution to the review process and assured them that the Government would pay serious attention to the views expressed and the valuable recommendations put forward during the interactive dialogue.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations**

117. **The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue and listed below have been examined by Kyrgyzstan and enjoy the support of Kyrgyzstan:**

117.1. **Continue harmonizing national legislation with the Constitution and international human rights norms (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**

117.2. **Take measures to ensure that all legislation is in full compliance with international human rights obligations (Costa Rica);**

117.3. **Continue the work to bring the national legal framework in line with its international obligations (Russian Federation);**

117.4. **Continue to fulfil its international obligations and commitments it has made in the field of human rights taking into account the country's development and its historical, cultural and religious background (Bangladesh);**

117.5. **Review the compliance of national legislation with the provisions of ICCPR (Sweden);**

117.6. **Empower legal advisers in parliament to review draft laws and policies, incorporate input from civil society and experts in the international**

** The conclusions and recommendations have not been edited.

community, and oppose legislation that is inconsistent with international human rights obligations and commitments (United States of America);

117.7. **Continue to strengthen democratic institutions with a clear separation of powers ahead of the coming election cycle (Norway);**

117.8. **Continue strengthening its national human rights institutions (Jordan);**

117.9. **Take the necessary steps to ensure that the National Council on Gender Issues becomes fully operational (Ghana);**

117.10. **Improve intra-state mechanisms for the implementation of international obligations in the area of human rights (Tajikistan);**

117.11. **Take the necessary steps to bring the Office of the Ombudsman into compliance with the Paris Principles (Turkey);**

117.12. **Accelerate the process of bringing the statutes of the Office of Ombudsman into full conformity with the Paris Principles (Afghanistan);**

117.13. **Complete the process of ensuring that the Ombudsman Institution is fully compliant with the Paris Principles, at the earliest (India);**

117.14. **Intensify efforts to bring the Office of the Ombudsman into compliance with the Paris Principles (Kenya);**

117.15. **Ensure that the Office of the Ombudsman is brought into line with the Paris Principles (Sierra Leone);**

117.16. **Grant to the National Centre for the Prevention of Torture the necessary financial resources to ensure its functioning and independence in accordance with OPCAT (Switzerland);**

117.17. **Provide the National Centre for the Prevention of Torture with the necessary resources for its adequate functioning, and ensure its full independence (Chile);**

117.18. **Take comprehensive measures to improve the level of public security in the country and to combat terrorism and extremism (Tajikistan);**

117.19. **Continue efforts to combat drug trafficking/trade and corruption (Russian Federation);**

117.20. **Provide comprehensive support to the institution of the family (Russian Federation);**

117.21. **Strengthen national procedures for the protection of the rights of socially vulnerable groups of the population, including women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons (Tajikistan);**

117.22. **Improve further the child protection system and create conditions for ensuring the rights of the child to grow and develop in the family environment (Belarus);**

117.23. **Continue its policies on improving the rights of the child (Jordan);**

117.24. **Take further steps to improve the system of children's rights protection (Kazakhstan);**

117.25. **Continue strengthening legal mechanisms for the protection of the rights of children (Russian Federation);**

117.26. **Effectively cooperate with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders (Lithuania);**

117.27. **Effectively cooperate with the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association (Lithuania);**

117.28. **Analyse the possibility of creating a monitoring system for the implementation of international obligations in order to facilitate the systematization and follow-up of the recommendations made by the treaty bodies and the Human Rights Council (Paraguay);**

117.29. **Engage civil society in the implementation process of the accepted UPR recommendations (Poland);**

117.30. **Continue efforts in implementing CAT and its Optional Protocol with more concrete actions (Indonesia);**

117.31. **Continue to adopt effective legislative measures to ensure women's security and rights, and strengthen the national mechanism on gender policies (Spain);**

117.32. **Continue to implement the National Strategy for Gender Equality 2020 (Pakistan);**

117.33. **Take steps to ensure that laws on gender equality and domestic violence are enforced effectively (Australia);**

117.34. **Continue the implementation of measures aimed to empower women and their contribution (Sri Lanka);**

117.35. **Redouble the efforts to increase women's participation in society, in particular by increasing the number of women in decision-making (Timor-Leste);**

117.36. **Continue to promote gender equality through the empowerment of women in decision-making and public administration (Nicaragua);**

117.37. **Empower women's social development and their participation in political decision-making (Sierra Leone);**

117.38. **Strengthen anti-discrimination laws and policies, and intensify the implementation of measures to protect all women from discrimination and violence, including through nationwide public awareness campaigns (Philippines);**

117.39. **Take all necessary measures to fight effectively against all forms of discrimination (France);**

117.40. **Ensure that national legislation conforms to international human rights standards on non-discrimination, particularly concerning sexual orientation and gender identity, gender and racial discrimination (Brazil);**

117.41. **Ensure equal rights and opportunities to all persons without distinction and promote policies to prevent discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Uruguay);**

117.42. **Ensure that allegations of violence, torture, inhuman and degrading treatment of LGBT persons, by government and non-government actors, are investigated promptly and efficiently and that perpetrators are brought to justice (Sweden);**

117.43. **Undertake all necessary measures to prevent discrimination and violence against LGBTI persons (Slovenia);**

117.44. **Further strengthen the implementation of Kyrgyzstan's international commitments with regard to CAT and investigate all allegations of torture and ill treatment in custody (Lithuania);**

117.45. **Take necessary measures to implement the National Plan to Combat Torture (Turkmenistan);**

117.46. **Implement without delay the recently adopted Action Plan on Torture and ensure that safeguards against torture are effectively granted in practice (Austria);**

117.47. **Adopt measures, including recommendations by the Committee against Torture, to combat torture and ill-treatment, by ensuring that the National Centre receives adequate resources and access; and by implementing an effective Anti-Torture Action Plan (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

117.48. **Examine allegations of ill-treatment and torture in custody and failures to ensure fair trial guarantees to those arrested and prosecuted following the 2010 violence (United States of America);**

117.49. **Ensure that allegations of torture and other ill-treatment are investigated promptly and effectively and that the perpetrators of these acts are prosecuted and punished according to the standards required by international norms (Uruguay);**

117.50. **Increase the capacity for investigation and prosecution of all complaints of torture, attach special attention to allegations of torture of persons belonging to ethnic minorities, and bring the definition of torture in the Criminal Code fully in line with CAT (Czech Republic);**

117.51. **Prevent acts of torture and ensure that allegations of torture and ill-treatment are investigated promptly and efficiently (Hungary);**

117.52. **Prevent all acts of torture and ill-treatment and ensure prompt and impartial investigations into complaints (Portugal);**

117.53. **Ensure that all allegations of torture and inhuman or degrading treatment, including those related to the June 2010 violence, are thoroughly investigated and that the perpetrators are brought to justice (Republic of Korea);**

117.54. **Ensure accountability and guarantee prompt and effective investigation of torture and of all cases of ill-treatment (Serbia);**

117.55. **Take all necessary measures to effectively fight against torture and ill-treatment, particularly in the police and penitentiary domains (France);**

117.56. **Further improve life conditions and the prevention of ill-treatment of detainees in State penitentiaries in compliance with international standards (Albania);**

117.57. **Provide guarantees for children in detention, including by removing the use of solitary confinement and by separating adults and children (Mexico);**

117.58. **Combat violence against women (Timor-Leste);**

117.59. **Continue its efforts in combating violence against women by, inter alia, raising awareness of the victims' rights, increasing public understanding to avoid social exclusion of the victims and empowering women and girls by enhancing access to education (Thailand);**

117.60. **Adopt the National Action Plan to combat violence against women, by investigating complaints and instituting criminal proceedings against perpetrators, even in the absence of formal complaints (Albania);**

117.61. **Adopt a national action plan to combat violence against women and a law on domestic violence (Brazil);**

117.62. **Take further legislative and practical measures to end violence against women, including the phenomenon of bride kidnapping as well as early and forced marriage (Austria);**

117.63. **Strengthen the implementation of legislation aimed at the elimination of violence against women and increase funding for assistance to the victims, in particular with regard to domestic violence and bride kidnapping (Czech Republic);**

117.64. **Enforce existing criminal laws including ensuring that perpetrators of gender-based violence and bride kidnapping and abductions are brought to justice (Ghana);**

117.65. **Adopt legislation to monitor and eliminate violence against women and girls, including child kidnapping (Sierra Leone);**

117.66. **Continue the active fight against domestic violence and violence against women, paying special attention to preventive and prophylactic measures (Belarus);**

117.67. **Take further steps to address gender-based violence, including guaranteeing that the cases of violence are thoroughly investigated and rights to fair trial ensured (Latvia);**

117.68. **Strengthen mechanisms to detect, investigate and punish cases of gender-based violence and bride kidnapping, train law enforcement officials to deal with such cases, and provide legal and medical support to victims (Republic of Moldova);**

117.69. **Prosecute perpetrators of gender-based violence and bride-kidnapping (Slovenia);**

117.70. **Introduce more effective policies to combat child forced marriage (Viet Nam);**

117.71. **Strengthen measures to combat forced or early marriages (Algeria);**

117.72. **Strengthen efforts that are in place to put an end early and forced marriages and bride-kidnapping (Belgium);**

117.73. **Take further measures to combat bridal kidnappings and child, early and forced marriage (Canada);**

117.74. **Strengthen the public campaigns and raise awareness regarding the unacceptability of the practice of child, early and forced marriage (Croatia);**

117.75. **Continue to take steps to put an end to practices of bride-kidnapping and early marriage (Japan);**

117.76. **Ensure full implementation of the law increasing the penalty for bride-kidnapping in order to eliminate violence against women, in particular bride-kidnapping of underage girls, polygamous unions and early marriage of girls (Poland);**

117.77. **Develop a comprehensive strategy to address violence against children (Albania);**

117.78. **Fully prohibit corporal punishment against children in all settings, including at home (Croatia);**

117.79. **Take all measures necessary to prevent violence against children in all its forms and to put mechanisms in place to protect especially girls who are more vulnerable to sexual abuse and violence (Namibia);**

117.80. **Further enhance its efforts to effectively prevent and prosecute violence against children (Portugal);**

117.81. **Expedite efforts towards prohibition of all forms of child labour (Sri Lanka);**

117.82. **Completely eliminate the practice of child labour and ensure that all children have access to free and compulsory education (Hungary);**

117.83. **Continue its efforts directed towards the fight against trafficking in persons (Armenia);**

117.84. **Strengthen the implementation of programmes aiming at the rehabilitation of victims of trafficking in persons, including providing advice, shelter and legal aid and rehabilitation services (Kuwait);**

117.85. **Launch a campaign to raise public awareness on the issue of trafficking in persons (Kuwait);**

117.86. **Continue working on the ongoing reform of the judicial system to promote compliance by the courts with international standards (Turkmenistan);**

117.87. **Continue to implement judicial reforms in the country (Pakistan);**

117.88. **Take further steps to ensure, in law and in practice, the independence of the judiciary (Ireland);**

117.89. **Continue reforms to ensure the full independence of judges and the application of fair trial guarantees for everyone (Costa Rica);**

117.90. **Ensure the full independence of the judiciary, including the establishment of objective criteria for selecting and dismissing judges and guarantee the respect of a fair trial for everyone (Estonia);**

117.91. **Ensure that the justice system functions with independence and in full compliance with relevant international norms (France);**

117.92. **Take further requisite measures to ensure full independence of the judiciary, which will have a meaningful contribution to their democracy and instil confidence in the people of Kyrgyzstan (Namibia);**

117.93. **Ensure due process and accountability in the administration of justice, and hold perpetrators of any ill-treatment of prisoners to account (Australia);**

117.94. **Strengthen the position and the independence of the Constitutional Court in order to ensure that fundamental freedoms and minority rights, as guaranteed in the Constitution, are fully respected in newly adopted legislation (Germany);**

117.95. **Facilitate citizens' access to judicial appeal in cases of restrictions of freedom of assembly (Germany);**

117.96. **Continue developing a comprehensive juvenile judicial system (Kazakhstan);**

117.97. **Commit to ensuring the full and impartial investigation of complaints of many of those arrested in the aftermath of the June 2010 violence (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

117.98. **Strengthen the investigation and punishment of human rights violations related to the 2010 ethnic conflict (Argentina);**

117.99. **Investigate all allegations of torture and sexual violence committed in the context of the June 2010 conflict (Mexico);**

117.100. **Simplify the procedure for birth registration and ensure that all children born in its territory are registered and provided with birth certificates, irrespective of the availability of their parents' identity documents or residence permits (Albania);**

117.101. **Take the necessary measures for the proper civil registration of migrant children and birth registration of children of migrants (Mexico);**

117.102. **Ensure that relevant legislation guarantees the exercise of the rights to freedom of expression and association for all individuals, including human rights defenders and journalists (Austria);**

117.103. **Refrain from adopting legislation that would limit the right to freedom of association (Canada);**

117.104. **Ensure that any legislation on NGOs is fully in line with international human rights law, including freedom of expression and freedom of association (Finland);**

117.105. **Carefully consider the proposed law on restrictions of the activities of non-governmental organizations to ensure that it does not impede the valuable work they are doing, together with Kyrgyz authorities, to combat human rights abuses and uphold individual freedoms in the country (Norway);**

117.106. **Ensure that its legislation protects the rights of everyone, regardless of their sexual orientation and gender identity, minority status or any other basis, to freedom of expression and assembly, freedom from discrimination and equality before the law (Finland);**

117.107. **Ensure respect for freedom of expression, freedom of the press and freedom of association (France);**

117.108. **Guarantee freedom of assembly and association in line with ICCPR (Germany);**

117.109. **Ensure in law and practice that journalists and other persons can freely exercise their right to freedom of expression (Latvia);**

117.110. **Ensure that attacks on journalists are promptly investigated and the perpetrators held accountable, as recommended in the first cycle (Slovenia);**

117.111. **Guarantee freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly for journalists, activists, human rights defenders and for participants in demonstrations (Uruguay);**

117.112. **Ensure that journalists, human rights defenders and other members of civil society can seek, receive and impart information and carry out their legitimate peaceful activities without hindrance, intimidation, harassment or pressure (Belgium);**

117.113. **Take the necessary measures to ensure that human rights defenders and civil society actors can carry out their legitimate work in a safe environment without threats and harassment by State and non-State actors (Denmark);**

117.114. **Protect human rights defenders from intimidation and violence and ensure prompt, impartial and thorough investigation of allegations of harassment, torture and ill-treatment of human rights defenders (Ireland);**

117.115. **Increase the level of political participation and decision-making of women and minority groups at governmental level (Namibia);**

117.116. **Continue working for the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights in the country (Nicaragua);**

117.117. **Continue strengthening the programmes carried out for the social protection of all the Kyrgyz people in the fight against poverty and social inequity (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**

117.118. **Ensure the integration and effective implementation of strategies on poverty alleviation, social security, gender equality and the protection of child rights (Viet Nam);**

117.119. **Continue to improve socioeconomic conditions to eradicate poverty (Bangladesh);**

117.120. **Continue to implement its poverty reduction strategy, to enable its people to better enjoy the right to development, providing the necessary foundation for the enjoyment of the other rights (China);**

117.121. **Continue implementing the National Sustainable Development Strategy as a means to fight poverty (Cuba);**

117.122. **Further develop policies and programmes to alleviate and eradicate poverty, with special emphasis on vulnerable groups, by taking forward initiatives such as the National Action Plan and Programme against Corruption (India);**

117.123. **Continue its exceptional efforts in combating poverty and developing the education system, and in addition, continue to enhance its efforts related to preserving the environment (Iraq);**

117.124. **Develop efforts to formulate a national strategy to ensure the full realization of the right to adequate housing that incorporates social housing and also the reconstruction of the housing areas destroyed during the violence of June 2010 (Chile);**

117.125. **Improve reproductive health education and access to adequate health care and treatment for HIV-positive mothers to prevent mother to child transmission (Thailand);**

117.126. **Increase investment in and maintain school infrastructure (Bangladesh);**

117.127. **Provide inclusive education for children with disabilities and include human rights education in schools (Montenegro);**

117.128. **Allocate enough resources for education in order to ensure the right to education (Romania);**

117.129. **Implement strategies to promote better access to education for girls at all levels (Sierra Leone);**

117.130. **Implement the series of measures to ensure the rights of and improve the quality of life of persons with disabilities for 2014–2017 (Cuba);**

117.131. **Continue the initiatives for the promotion of tolerance and diversity with the aim of protecting the rights of national and ethnic minorities of the country (Armenia);**

117.132. **Continue its efforts in giving due attention to the inter-ethnic issues including by ensuring effective implementation of its Policy Framework on Strengthening National Unity and Inter-Ethnic Relations (Malaysia);**

117.133. **Continue the efforts in the framework of the inter-ethnic policy and the protection of the rights of ethnic minorities (Morocco);**

117.134. **Continue to make progress towards the full recognition of ethnic and cultural diversity that characterizes the Kyrgyz people (Nicaragua);**

117.135. **Intensify the work related to inter-ethnic reconciliation, with special attention to the integration of ethnic minorities into public service and law enforcement bodies (Sweden);**

117.136. **Actively combat all indications of inter-ethnic strife, and national and religious intolerance (Tajikistan);**

117.137. **Adopt additional measures to protect religious, cultural and ethnic minorities subjected to discrimination (Argentina);**

117.138. **Adopt norms and procedures to ensure the implementation of the principle of non-refoulement as established by the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (Argentina);**

117.139. **Strengthen its judicial system in order to ensure that most citizens have access to justice (Angola).**

118. **The recommendations below did not enjoy the support of Kyrgyzstan and would therefore be noted:**

118.1. **Consider ratifying the Rome Statute of ICC (Republic of Korea);**

118.2. **Ratify and fully align its national legislation with all the obligations under the Rome Statute of ICC (Latvia);**

118.3. **Ratify and fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the ICC (Slovenia);**

118.4. **Ratify and fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the ICC, and accede to the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (Estonia);**

118.5. **Ratify the Rome Statute of ICC, while welcoming the fact that the possibility is currently under analysis (Portugal);**

118.6. **Ratify the Rome Statute establishing ICC (Timor Leste);**

118.7. **Ratify the Statute of ICC signed in 1998 (Hungary);**

118.8. **Ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC (Paraguay) (Poland) (Romania) (Austria);**

118.9. **Ratify the Rome Statute on ICC (Ghana);**

118.10. **Ratify the Rome Statute of ICC, and ICPPED, as previously recommended (Uruguay);**

118.11. **Ratify ICPPED (France) (Paraguay);**

118.12. **Consider ratifying ICPPED (Morocco);**

118.13. **Ratify the Optional Protocol to ICESCR (Uruguay);**

118.14. **Ratify the Optional Protocol to ICESCR (Portugal);**

118.15. **Ratify OP-CRC-IC (Portugal);**

118.16. **Consider acceding to ILO Convention 189 (Philippines);**

118.17. **Adapt recruitment guidelines of the police and security forces in order to guarantee the proportional representation of ethnic minorities and an increased representation of women (Germany);**

118.18. **Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation effectively fighting and preventing discrimination on all grounds, including ethnicity, religion, gender and sexual orientation (Czech Republic);**

118.19. **Review and strengthen existing legislation in order to introduce comprehensive anti-discrimination laws with special emphasis on ethnic, religious and gender issues and make the National Council on Gender Issues fully operational (Poland);**

118.20. **Enact specific legislation to prohibit discrimination against persons based on sex, race, colour, religion, national origin and sexual orientation (Canada);**

118.21. **Withdraw the draft law on "formation of positive attitude to non-traditional sexual relations" and develop and implement comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation, in close cooperation with civil society (Austria);**

118.22. **Include sexual orientation and gender identity in the national legislation on discrimination, and establish policies and initiatives to address discrimination against LGBTI persons (Chile);**

118.23. **Criminalize homophobic hate speech in the public discourse (Serbia);**

118.24. **Adopt and implement legislation ensuring effective protection of LGBT people, inter alia on the prohibition of discrimination and hate crimes, a confidential complaints mechanism and protection of LGBT minors (Netherlands);**

118.25. **Transparently investigate allegations of ill-treatment committed by law enforcement officers during and after the June 2010 events and take clear steps to combat the arbitrary detentions and torture of detainees, especially of the ethnic Uzbek population in the southern regions (Norway);**

118.26. **Refrain from imposing disproportionate or discriminatory restrictions on freedom of association and reject draft laws on money laundering, treason and foreign agents (Lithuania);**

118.27. **Develop a national strategy on water and support the establishment of regional instruments for the management of water and hydro-electrical energy to contribute to improve cooperation between the country and its neighbours (Spain);**

118.28. **Step up the reform aimed at adapting the Constitution to the international standards in the field of protection of human rights (Angola).**

119. **The following recommendations will be examined by Kyrgyzstan, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the twenty-ninth session of the Human Rights Council to be held from 15 June to 3 July 2015:**

119.1. **Ratify CRPD (Austria) (Romania);**

119.2. **Ratify CRPD (Ghana);**

119.3. **Accelerate its efforts to ratify CRPD (Indonesia);**

119.4. **Complete the ratification process for CRPD (Algeria);**

119.5. **Take the necessary steps towards ratifying CRPD (Japan);**

119.6. **Speed up the process for ratifying CRPD and its Optional Protocol (Spain);**

119.7. **Extend a standing invitation to all special procedures (Turkey);**

119.8. **Extend a standing invitation to all special procedures and accept all the visits of Special Rapporteurs (France);**

119.9. **Consider issuing a standing invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Ghana);**

119.10. **Consider extending a standing invitation to special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council (Latvia);**

119.11. **Consider extending a standing invitation to the mandate holders of all special procedures of the Human Rights Council, as the Republic of Korea previously recommended in the first UPR (Republic of Korea);**

119.12. **That any changes in legislation uphold fundamental freedoms and ensure non-discrimination, including on the basis of religion or sexual orientation (Australia);**

119.13. **Refrain from adopting the discriminatory draft law on "formation of positive attitude to non-traditional sexual relations" (Canada);**

119.14. **Repeal any law or bill that does not meet international standards on non-discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation (Spain);**

119.15. **Make additional efforts to fight against homophobia, discrimination and violence against LGBT persons (Montenegro);**

119.16. **Adopt public policies that protect against all forms of discrimination and violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Spain);**

119.17. **Establish an intra-state reporting mechanism on violence against women and provide its victims with appropriate services (Lithuania);**

119.18. **Review the Law on Religion in order to guarantee freedom of religion in compliance with international standards (Poland);**

119.19. **Refrain from adopting any legislation incompatible with freedom of association, particularly with regard to NGOs' access to funding, and facilitate, promote and protect the development of a framework for organizations and individuals working for the promotion and respect of human rights consistent with international law (Switzerland);**

119.20. **Refrain from adopting laws that have the effect of limiting the right to freedom of expression and association (Belgium);**

119.21. **Refrain from adopting any legislation, such as the draft law on "foreign agents" and the draft law on "dissemination of information about non-traditional sexual relations" that will limit the fundamental rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly (Denmark);**

119.22. **Abstain from the adoption of legislation limiting freedom of association as protected by ICCPR, in particular legislation on "foreign agents" (Netherlands);**

119.23. **Amend legislation in order to narrow down the criminal offences of "extremist activities" in order to ensure that charges are not applied arbitrarily and that freedom of expression as set out in the ICCPR is not restricted (Germany);**

119.24. **Conform the recently adopted amendments to the Criminal Code to international human rights standards, promptly investigate attacks on journalists and human rights defenders and hold accountable the perpetrators (Lithuania);**

119.25. **Ensure freedom of expression online and offline, including guaranteeing freedom of the press and decriminalizing all defamation in the Penal Code (Estonia);**

119.26. **Ensure the full realization of freedom of association and freedom of expression and revise all legislation excessively restricting the work of civil society, including the envisaged so-called "foreign agents" law stigmatizing and crippling the work of NGOs (Czech Republic);**

119.27. **Refrain from any action incompatible with the non-discrimination of religious and ethnic minorities as well as of LGBT persons (Switzerland);**

119.28. **Cease harassment and discrimination by police of members of ethnic minorities and peaceful religious adherents under the pretext of combating violent extremism, and grant registration to peaceful religious groups (United States of America);**

119.29. **Continue working on implementing the programme on sustainable development, a strategy adopted under the recent National Council for Development, which is based on the interconnection between economic, social and environmental processes, a strategy which is similar to that of Bhutan's middle path of sustainable development, which is also based on the premise that economic, social and environmental forces are highly interdependent (Bhutan).**

120. **All the conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

Annex

[English only]

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Kyrgyzstan was headed by the Vice Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic, Mr. Abdyrakman Mamataliev and composed of the following members:

- Mr. Askar Beshimov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- Mrs. Natalia Nikitenko, Deputy of the Jogorku Kenesh (Parliament) the Kyrgyz Republic;
- Mrs. Eristina Kochkarova, Deputy of the Jogorku Kenesh (Parliament) the Kyrgyz Republic;
- Ambassador Gulnara Iskakova, Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic to the United Nations Office and other International Organisations in Geneva;
- Mrs. Jyldyz Mambetalieva, Deputy Minister of Justice of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- Mr. Kursan Asanov, Deputy Minister of the Interior Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- Mrs. Zhylfyz Polotova, Deputy Minister of Social Development of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- Mrs. Almash Altymysheva, Second Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- Mr. Malik Bekturganov, Head of Division of the Prosecutor General's Office of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- Mr. Aibek Shatenov, Deputy Director of the State Center for Forensic Enquiry under the Ministry of Justice of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- Mrs. Zhamby Dzhusubaliev, Expert of the Coordination Council on Human Rights of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- Mr. Aidit Erkin, Counsellor of the Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic to the United Nations Office and other International Organisations in Geneva.

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Universal Periodic Review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Kiribati

* The annex to the present report is circulated as received.

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, held its twenty-first session from 19 to 30 January 2015. The review of Kiribati was held at the 2nd meeting on 19 January 2015. The delegation of Kiribati was headed by the Minister for Women, Youth and Social Affairs, Tangariki Reete. At its 10th meeting, held on 23 January 2015, the Working Group adopted the report on Kiribati.

2. On 13 January 2015, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Kiribati: Ireland, Kenya and Viet Nam.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Kiribati:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/21/KIR/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/21/KIR/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/21/KIR/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Germany, Slovenia, Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to Kiribati through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the universal periodic review (UPR).

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The head of the delegation of Kiribati, Tangariki Reete, first expressed Kiribati's gratitude for the support provided by all the stakeholders involved in the preparation of the country's second national report under the UPR, in particular, the OHCHR Regional Office for the Pacific in Fiji, United Nations agencies in the Pacific region, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community through the Regional Rights Resource Team, and the Commonwealth Small States Office in Geneva.

6. In 2010, when Kiribati had presented its first UPR report, it was clear that a lot of development would be required to meet its international obligations relating to human rights. Four years later, Kiribati had fulfilled many of the international requirements included in the recommendations. During its first review Kiribati had received 83 recommendations, out of which 42 had been accepted, 11 had not been supported and 30 were to be considered in due process. Kiribati informed the Working Group of the significant progress achieved so far in meeting those commitments.

7. Work on the follow-up of the first review had involved relevant ministries, civil society and faith-based organizations in the implementation of the recommendations, prior to establishment of the Kiribati National Human Rights Taskforce in 2014. The task force had led the national preparation for the country's second UPR and had considered submissions from all stakeholders, who had also participated in the consultation process.

8. The second UPR report included information on the progress and continued commitment of the Government of Kiribati, and emphasized the achievements since the review in 2010 in relation to mainstreaming human rights into the formal machinery of the Government through the following:

(a) Commitment to human rights and related international conventions;

(b) Legislative and policy reforms;

(c) Creation of a human rights task force;

(d) Awareness programmes on human rights;

(e) National Development Plan (known as the Kiribati Development Plan);

(f) Child labour policy;

(g) Human rights special procedures;

(h) Gender and inequality policies;

(i) Health, education and environment programmes.

9. Kiribati had been addressing treaty obligations with a view to incorporating human rights principles into its national legislation. The following legislation had been passed by the Parliament of Kiribati since the country's first review in 2010:

(a) Children, Young People and Family Welfare Act (2013);

(b) Education Act (2013);

(c) Amendment of the Constitution to establish the Ministry of Women, Youth and Social Affairs;

(d) Te Rau N Te Mweenga (Family Peace Act) (2014).

10. Other developments that had been achieved in protecting and supporting human rights included the following:

(a) Progress in the area of eliminating sexual and gender-based violence, following the alarming results of the Kiribati Family Health and Support Study, which had been completed in 2008. The study had highlighted the need for urgent action, resulting in a very strong political call and national commitment to eliminate violence against women and girls;

(b) A targeted programme had been set up to coordinate programmes on eliminating sexual and gender-based violence. Technical and financial assistance from various donors and development partners, including Australia, New Zealand, Turkey, Taiwan Province of China, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community and the World Bank, had assisted in the implementation of those programmes;

(c) In 2010, the Government of Kiribati had endorsed the National Approach to Eliminating Sexual and Gender Based Violence: Policy and Strategic Action Plan (2011–2021), which had led to a wide range of activities and changes, including the passing of Te Rau N Te Mweenga (Family Peace Act 2014), male advocacy programmes, initiatives for adolescent girls and collaborative work with key ministries and civil society organizations in mainstreaming the elimination of sexual and gender-based violence into their programmes and building their capacities;

(d) The Kiribati Shared Implementation Plan, an overarching plan that had been endorsed in 2014 by the Cabinet, and the joint plan with the United Nations, which was

currently being finalized, were part of the implementation of the National Approach to Eliminating Sexual and Gender Based Violence: Policy and Strategic Action Plan;

(e) SafeNet, a committee that comprised government ministries, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and faith-based organizations providing front-line services to victims of domestic violence, had also been established in most islands of Kiribati. Organizations referred cases to appropriate authorities and shared information and data. In 2014, a gender project funded by the World Bank had been set up to manage, coordinate and improve access to domestic violence services;

(f) Kiribati was a member of the Pacific Islands Forum Reference Group to Address Sexual and Gender Based Violence. A socioeconomic impact costing of violence against women had been conducted in 2014, and a report on the matter was currently being finalized;

(g) The Children, Young People and Family Welfare Policy, aimed at protecting children against abuse, violence, neglect and exploitation, ensured that the best interests of children and families were fulfilled;

(h) An inclusive education policy had been developed with a view to supporting:

(i) Provisions of a flexible curriculum;

(ii) Training of teachers to deliver educational programmes and implement strategies;

(iii) Compulsory education for all school-aged children (at the levels of primary and junior secondary), including children with special needs;

(iv) Recognition of the role of parents/caregivers in all stages of their child's education.

11. Kiribati had also undergone a gender stocktaking exercise, conducted in September 2013 through the assistance of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community. Recommended strategic action emerging from the stocktaking included action to strengthen the capacity for data collection and gender analysis of data, to improve accountability and to facilitate the monitoring of the effectiveness of gender mainstreaming. The Gender Equality and Women's Development Policy had been reviewed: priorities were to create an enabling environment for gender mainstreaming, improve political representation and leadership, empower women economically, support stronger, informed families, and eliminate sexual and gender-based violence.

12. The Government had ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2013, and had drafted a national disability policy that would ultimately provide a national framework to guide all stakeholders and communities in improving the lives of persons with disabilities, dismantling the barriers in society and raising awareness. Under the Building Act 2006, the Building Code had been formulated, by way of regulations, to accommodate persons with disabilities and provide them with more access to buildings and infrastructure. A workshop had been held with all mayors in Kiribati, while Te Toa Matoa, an NGO serving as a disabled persons' organization, had carried out awareness-raising programmes in islands in Kiribati.

13. The development of the Kiribati Health Strategic Plan (2012–2015) had set the overall framework for action on health. The plan had been shaped by an assessment that had examined the health needs of the I-Kiribati population and the ability of the health system to respond to those needs.

14. The Kiribati Integrated Environment Policy had been approved in 2012 and publicly launched in 2013. The Policy identified national environment priorities under five thematic

areas — climate change, biodiversity, waste management and pollution control, resource management and environmental governance — and sought to keep the Government and donors abreast of the environment priorities that needed to be addressed at the national level. The policy was also aimed at protecting and managing the environment and promoted the resilience of the peoples of Kiribati against the impacts of climate change.

15. The Kiribati Joint Implementation Plan for Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management had been designed to complement the National Disaster Risk Management Plan and the National Framework for Climate Change and Climate Change Adaptation. The Kiribati Joint Implementation Plan respected and promoted human rights by ensuring that all I-Kiribati had increased access to food security, safe water security and land security, taking into account the current and future threats of climate change and disasters such as sea-level rise and drought.

16. Efforts had been made to establish systems for mainstreaming human rights into the work of all ministries and departments that administered and implemented national laws, including the Constitution. For example, the Kiribati National Human Rights Taskforce had been set up in July 2014, and a human rights unit had been included within the Ministry for Women, Youth and Social Affairs, effective from 2015.

17. The delegation stated that the commitment of Kiribati to addressing and increasing the promotion and protection of human rights was entrenched in the country's own traditional system. Kiribati was blessed with strong, age-old traditional and cultural institutions that safeguarded the basic human rights of its people and communities. The Ministry of Women, Youth and Social Affairs, through its Women's Development Division and Social Welfare Division, had conducted awareness-raising and consultations on human rights conventions in collaboration with regional and international organizations. During the period 2013–2014, human rights training on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and eliminating sexual and gender-based violence had been conducted on 20 of the 22 inhabited islands of Kiribati. A direct outcome of the initiative had been the creation of a pool of human rights defenders and male advocates throughout Kiribati.

18. Child protection legislation had been reformed through a common effort by the Government and all stakeholders. A technical working group, established in 2010, continued to work with representatives from NGOs and faith-based organizations. Awareness-raising programmes on the Children, Young People and Family Welfare Act and policy had been conducted in nine islands, including the capital, Tarawa, where over 50 per cent of the population — more than 50,000 people — resided. The other islands in the country would be visited in 2015. Under section 18, subsections 1 and 2, of the Children, Young People and Family Welfare Act 2013, any person was mandated to report concerns to the police and welfare officers about the well-being of a child or young person, including children undergoing and suffering from corporal punishment both in the community and in schools. During the consultations on that legislation and the related policy, community members had been trained to become child protection advocates.

19. The Youth Justice Bill was being drafted and the final version would be submitted to the Cabinet by the end of March 2015.

20. The Kiribati National Human Rights Taskforce had been working on pending reports for the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC). It aimed at submitting the consolidated initial and second and third periodic reports to CEDAW in April 2015. The consolidated second to fourth periodic reports for CRC would be submitted in June 2015. The task force would also compile and submit the initial report for the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities by the due date in 2015. The recent creation of the

Ministry of Women, Youth and Social Affairs and the establishment of the Human Rights Taskforce and Human Rights Unit had placed Kiribati in a better position to advance its work on human rights and, in particular, speed up the process of preparing and submitting future periodic reports to relevant committees.

21. Kiribati would continue to work in cooperation with OHCHR and to seek support from United Nations agencies, regional bodies and development partners in building national capacity, training and exchanging human rights expertise and experiences with other Pacific island countries.

22. Kiribati had also been making progress in achieving internationally set goals, such as the Millennium Development Goals, despite various challenges, such as isolation, overpopulation and lack of data and access to rights and services.

23. The smallness of the islands and their geographic dispersion across a large ocean area made access to services, including the exorbitant cost of replicating those services, a major challenge. Further support was required in building local capacity and strengthening and resourcing existing structures and bodies that played a key role in human rights implementation and reporting.

24. In its national report, Kiribati had highlighted that the major challenge it faced was climate change. As a nation of low-lying islands, with an average elevation of only 2 metres above sea level, climate change and the resultant sea-level rise had added new and major challenges for Kiribati, including loss of territory, severe coastal erosion and involuntary displacement of communities, affecting food and water security. More importantly, it had become an issue of survival for the people of Kiribati.

25. Kiribati welcomed the upcoming full-day discussion on human rights and climate change scheduled for 6 March 2015, during the twenty-eighth session of the Human Rights Council. It encouraged small States to take that opportunity to share their views on challenges and best practices in addressing the adverse effects of climate change and human rights. Kiribati called upon the international community to continue to support the increased participation of small States, in particular those that did not have representation in Geneva, in the discussions on those important issues taking place during the sessions of the Human Rights Council.

26. Kiribati strongly believed that it was absolutely essential to address the challenges faced by low-lying nations due to climate change and the way in which climate change was affecting the very basic human right of Kiribati people to survive as a distinct culture, and to enjoy basic rights, such as access to clean drinking water and to food.

27. The Government of Kiribati had been doing its best to face the situation; it had been buying land offshore, focusing on education and upskilling people to prepare them to be able to "migrate with dignity" when the islands of Kiribati were no longer habitable. Kiribati had also initiated a coalition of the nations most vulnerable to climate change: the Coalition of Low-lying Atoll Nations on Climate Change.

28. Kiribati welcomed and appreciated assistance from development partners, but much more needed to be done.

29. Climate change and sea-level rise were global problems. Kiribati was on the front line, together with other low-lying countries, such as Maldives, the Marshall Islands and Tuvalu, as well as areas such as Tokelau, but so were the scores of millions of people in the Pacific region and around the world living in low-lying coastal cities, towns and village communities. Kiribati called for urgent regional and global action to help island States living in the same dangerous conditions as Kiribati.

30. The Government was strongly committed to upholding and ensuring human rights for its people; the delegation took careful note of the comments made during the UPR session, and Kiribati would continue to work hard in meeting its human rights obligations. However, the UPR process would amount to nothing if the major challenges posing serious threats to the basic human right of Kiribati people to survive were not also addressed in human rights bodies such as the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review. Climate change was the number one challenge.

31. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review and the Human Rights Council needed to focus and catalyse global action to address that major challenge to the right to survive, not only for Kiribati but for the global community, as they had done so well in respect of the rights of individuals, women's rights, gender equality, the rights of the child, the rights of the disabled, and freedom of speech, worship and association.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

32. During the interactive dialogue, 44 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

33. Estonia noted with appreciation that Kiribati had taken steps to implement the previous recommendations. Estonia invited Kiribati to guarantee access to public information and ensure that journalists and media workers could operate without fearing reprisals. It encouraged Kiribati to continue efforts to become a party to all of the main international human rights instruments and to issue a standing invitation to special procedures. Estonia made recommendations.

34. France encouraged Kiribati to mobilize to promote the universal abolition of the death penalty. It also encouraged Kiribati to accede to those international instruments to which Kiribati was not a party. France welcomed the drawing up of the national action plan on eliminating sexual and gender-based violence, and encouraged Kiribati to fully implement the plan. France made recommendations.

35. Germany commended the efforts of Kiribati to further strengthen human rights protection and implement the recommendations of the first UPR cycle. It expressed appreciation for the establishment of a dedicated task force on human rights and the adoption and elaboration of legislation and policies to counter domestic violence and protect the rights of children. Germany made recommendations.

36. Ghana noted the legislative measures taken by Kiribati to incorporate human rights principles into its national legislation and applauded the acts and policy measures enacted to improve education and the welfare of the family. It commended Kiribati for taking measures to address sexual and gender-based violence, promote the participation of women in politics and increase the number of women recruited into the Kiribati Police Service. Ghana made recommendations.

37. Indonesia noted with appreciation efforts taken by Kiribati to promote and protect the human rights of its citizens. It also noted with appreciation the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2013, and that Kiribati was considering ratifying or acceding to other human rights instruments. Indonesia further noted efforts by Kiribati to reduce maternal and infant mortality. It made recommendations.

38. Ireland commended the country's legislative reform in the field of children's rights. It welcomed the work undertaken to implement the national action plan to eliminate sexual and gender-based violence. However, it remained concerned at the high level of such violence. Ireland recognized the extreme challenges faced owing to the effects of climate

change, and commended the establishment of national climate change institutions. Ireland made recommendations.

39. Israel commended Kiribati for incorporating human rights principles into national legislation. It celebrated the initiative to formulate a national policy and a plan of action to combat gender-based violence. It welcomed the willingness of Kiribati to consider a constitutional amendment to expand the prohibited grounds of discrimination. Israel made recommendations.

40. Italy welcomed the commitment of Kiribati in the field of human rights and commended the actions taken so far. It also welcomed the measures taken to address gender-based violence and promote women's rights. It encouraged Kiribati to refrain from any proposal or plan to reintroduce the death penalty. Italy made recommendations.

41. Kenya commended the achievements of Kiribati in fulfilling its human rights commitments arising from previous recommendations. It welcomed the recent legislation to criminalize domestic violence and provide for the safety and protection of its victims. Kenya made a recommendation.

42. Maldives commended Kiribati on its efforts in ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and criminalizing domestic violence. It also applauded initiatives to address climate change. Maldives urged Kiribati to address its issues of development through a "sustainable means" lens, with a focus on climate change adaptation and disaster reduction. Maldives made recommendations.

43. Mexico commended Kiribati for the progress achieved since the first UPR cycle, which reflected its commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights and the willingness to cooperate with international mechanisms. Mexico also commended efforts made in terms of education, in particular the establishment of an inclusive education policy to ensure that boys and girls completed their primary-level education. Mexico made recommendations.

44. Montenegro recognized the efforts made by Kiribati to improve the institutional and legislative framework for human rights. It expressed hope that the National Approach to Eliminating Sexual and Gender Based Violence would help to address that issue effectively. Montenegro noted that there were several international human rights treaties to which Kiribati was not a party, while the reports on the implementation of the conventions it had ratified were overdue. It encouraged Kiribati to seek and use technical assistance in order to strengthen its national capacities and fulfil its reporting obligations. Montenegro made recommendations.

45. Namibia commended Kiribati for the Children, Young People and Family Welfare Act 2013, the Education Act 2013, the establishment of the Ministry of Women, Youth and Social Affairs and the National Approach to Eliminating Sexual and Gender Based Violence: Policy and Strategic Action Plan 2011–2021. Namibia made recommendations.

46. The Netherlands expressed appreciation that Kiribati had improved its environmental legislation, but stressed that more was needed to ensure that the population could fully enjoy its basic rights. It was concerned about the high rate of violence and sexual offences against women and children, and said it would welcome ratification by Kiribati of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. The Netherlands made recommendations.

47. New Zealand congratulated Kiribati on introducing legislation to criminalize domestic violence, sharing the concern of Kiribati about its continued high levels. It welcomed the country's decision to oppose any introduction of the death penalty. It noted that Kiribati had yet to finalize its periodic reports to CEDAW. New Zealand made recommendations.

48. The Philippines commended Kiribati for implementing its previous recommendations, noted progress in protecting the rights of women and children, welcomed the Education Act and enquired about human rights education programmes in school curricula. It wished Kiribati success in formulating a national disability policy and commended the establishment of climate change institutions and committees. The Philippines made recommendations.

49. Portugal welcomed the ratification by Kiribati of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and its adoption of the Integrated Environment Policy and the Joint Implementation Plan for Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management. It enquired about how principles such as non-discrimination and gender participation were integrated into those policies. Portugal made recommendations.

50. Sierra Leone commended measures and policies related to sexual and gender-based violence, children and young people, women and disability, the National Development Plan and the inclusion of reproductive health in national strategies. It encouraged Kiribati to establish a national human rights institution in line with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (Paris Principles) and submit its outstanding reports to human rights treaty bodies. Sierra Leone made recommendations.

51. Singapore commended the commitment of Kiribati to promoting and upholding human rights. It took positive note of the country's commitment to tackle gender-based violence and its efforts to increase access to health and medical services. It was supportive of the efforts made by Kiribati to raise education standards. Singapore made recommendations.

52. Slovenia recalled its first-cycle recommendations on the ratification of human rights treaties and prohibition of corporal punishment. It welcomed efforts made by Kiribati to incorporate human rights principles into its legislation and enquired about the rejection of sex and gender as prohibited grounds for discrimination in the Constitution. It welcomed efforts to improve access to education. Slovenia made recommendations.

53. The delegation of Kiribati responded to questions raised in advance. Kiribati intended to apply to the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights for accreditation of the Kiribati National Human Rights Taskforce. The Constitution of Kiribati prohibited discrimination, and the delegation referred to the services provided to people with disabilities. Kiribati had involved civil society in the UPR process.

54. Kiribati had ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and had withdrawn its reservations to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. It would accede to the latter's first two optional protocols and was considering ratifying the remaining human rights instruments. No cases had been prosecuted under the Family Peace Act. The goal of the Male Advocates Programme, in which 110 men had participated, was to increase the involvement of men in advocating human rights and addressing domestic violence. Kiribati worked to ensure that all children attended primary school. It would provide statistical data on that in June.

55. Kiribati would extend a standing invitation to the special procedures. It listed the measures taken to implement the Family Peace Act and the National Approach to Eliminating Sexual and Gender Based Violence and to meet the outstanding reporting requirements for CEDAW and CRC.

56. Kiribati would not be reintroducing the death penalty.

57. The delegation acknowledged the comments that had been raised in relation to climate change, and reiterated that it was a major challenge that heightened the existing challenges that Kiribati faced in meeting its human rights obligations. The delegation thanked those who had commented on the need for stronger global action and support for countries like Kiribati in meeting the urgent challenges that were resulting from climate change. It called on the international community to recognize the urgency of responding to those who were on the front line now.

58. Solomon Islands commended efforts in implementing recommendations and the establishment of the Ministry of Women, Youth and Social Affairs and the Kiribati National Human Rights Taskforce. It noted the progress made in drafting policies, enquired about the Male Advocates Programme and encouraged Kiribati to seek international assistance. Solomon Islands made recommendations.

59. South Africa commended the efforts made by Kiribati in implementing recommendations and commitments from the previous review. It noted the progress in the realization of the Millennium Development Goal target on hunger, and encouraged Kiribati to continue the promotion, protection and fulfilment of all human rights, including the right to development. South Africa made recommendations.

60. Spain highlighted the progress made in combating gender discrimination. It recalled its 2010 recommendation on strengthening the protection of women and ensuring equal opportunities. It stated that Kiribati had made efforts to protect the rights of persons with disabilities. Spain made recommendations.

61. Sri Lanka noted positive developments, including policy initiatives to secure the rights of children and women, inclusive education and the establishment of the Kiribati National Human Rights Taskforce. It urged the international community to provide Kiribati with technical assistance to enhance the capacity of the task force. Sri Lanka made recommendations.

62. Sweden referred to a proposal to amend the Penal Code to reinstate the death penalty. It stated that corporal punishment was lawful within the day-care system and that article 226 of the Penal Code permitted the administration of "reasonable punishment". Sweden made recommendations.

63. Thailand commended Kiribati on its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the establishment of the National Human Rights Taskforce and national legislative acts on the rights of women and children. It expressed its belief that the implementation of a universal health coverage scheme would be useful, and offered to share its experience. Thailand made recommendations.

64. Timor-Leste noted with appreciation the withdrawal of all reservations to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the adoption of the Education Act 2013. It remained concerned about the high percentage of children who did not attend primary school, and in particular that pregnant girls were not allowed to attend school. Timor-Leste made recommendations.

65. Trinidad and Tobago noted positively that Kiribati had approved its environmental policy, and noted the action taken to preserve the country's first United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization World Heritage Site. It highlighted recent legislation to criminalize domestic violence. It noted the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and that a national policy was being drafted on the subject. Trinidad and Tobago made recommendations.

66. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland welcomed measures to combat gender-based violence, in particular the criminalization of domestic violence through the Family Peace Act 2014 and the establishment of the Ministry of Women, Youth

and Social Affairs. Concerned that levels of sexual and gender-based violence remained high, the United Kingdom encouraged Kiribati to quickly finalize the Family Peace Act implementation plan and to ensure that perpetrators of domestic violence were prosecuted. The United Kingdom made recommendations.

67. The United States of America recognized that Kiribati had made advances in eliminating the worst forms of child labour by passing the Children, Young People and Family Welfare Act, and welcomed efforts to address human rights abuses in the country's vast territory. Additional government efforts were needed to raise awareness and enforce that law, as allegations of commercial sexual exploitation of children remained. The United States made recommendations.

68. Uruguay welcomed the creation of the national human rights working group, which, among other tasks, would coordinate the preparation and submission of reports to treaty bodies. Uruguay also welcomed the adoption of the national approach to eliminate sexual and gender-based violence. It noted with emphasis the country's accession to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and encouraged its accession to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Uruguay made recommendations.

69. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela welcomed the implementation of the Children, Young People and Family Welfare Act and the Education Act and the creation of the Ministry of Women, Youth and Social Affairs. It highlighted the launch of the 2012–2015 development plan, designed to guarantee social protection and gender equality. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela made recommendations.

70. Algeria welcomed the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2013, and praised the efforts to elaborate an inclusive education policy and implement a strategic plan on health. Algeria made recommendations.

71. Argentina congratulated Kiribati on its accession to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and encouraged it to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention, on individual communications. It welcomed the implementation of laws relating to children, young people and family welfare, with regard to assistance and social services. Argentina made recommendations.

72. Armenia welcomed the readiness of Kiribati to accede to international human rights instruments to which it was not yet a party. Armenia attached particular importance to the ratification of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. It noted with satisfaction that people in Kiribati had free access to medical services. Armenia made recommendations.

73. Australia acknowledged the country's ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and was encouraged by the efforts made by Kiribati towards the finalization of a national policy and action plan on disability. Australia was also encouraged by the recent decision not to introduce the death penalty, but remained concerned about continuing high rates of domestic violence. Australia made recommendations.

74. Brazil noted with appreciation the inclusion in the Constitution of the prohibition of discrimination based on race, colour and national origin and welcomed measures taken in that respect. Brazil also welcomed the interest demonstrated by Kiribati in extending an open invitation to the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, but was concerned at the situation of women and children who were victims of violence and sexual exploitation. Brazil made recommendations.

75. Canada welcomed steps taken to address violence against women and children, including sexual violence. It commended Kiribati for the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and asked for additional information concerning the

Government's funding of the school for persons with disabilities. Canada made recommendations.

76. Chile noted with appreciation the implementation of the Children, Young People and Family Welfare Act and the Education Act, the establishment of the Ministry of Women, Youth and Social Affairs, the adoption of the Te Rau N Te Mweenga Act, and the endorsement of the policy on the elimination of sexual and gender-based violence. It highlighted actions taken to reduce the country's vulnerability to climate change. Chile made recommendations.

77. China noted that new legislation and reforms had been introduced to combat sexual violence and promote gender equality and women's development. Other notable progress had been made in the protection of children's rights, public health, quality education and disability. China made recommendations.

78. Costa Rica recognized the Government's efforts to accede to various legal instruments, the measures taken to comply with the submission of reports to treaty bodies and its interest in and commitment to cooperating with the United Nations human rights mechanisms. Costa Rica congratulated Kiribati on the progress it had made in improving women's participation in politics and in decision-making processes. Costa Rica made recommendations.

79. Cuba found encouraging the Government's adoption of laws relating to children, youth and family welfare and education, and the establishment of the Ministry of Women, Youth and Social Affairs. Other significant achievements included the free access to medical services guaranteed by the Government, and the maintenance of international cooperation agreements to continue to improve the provision of assistance to the population. Cuba made a recommendation.

80. Denmark noted that Kiribati, during its first review, had taken note of recommendations to ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. Denmark stood ready to explore avenues to assist the Government of Kiribati in advancing on that issue, in the context of the Convention against Torture Initiative launched in March 2014 by Denmark and other countries for the universal ratification and implementation of the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto. Denmark made a recommendation.

81. Fiji congratulated Kiribati on the progress made in activities concerning human rights. It asked what steps had been taken to implement the Pacific platform on disaster risk reduction and how other countries could assist in such implementation. It also asked about the results regarding changing attitudes and gender stereotypes. Fiji made recommendations.

82. The head of the delegation of Kiribati thanked the members of the troika, as well as the member and observer States of the Human Rights Council, for their contributions to the interactive dialogue. Kiribati would take into consideration their comments and recommendations as it moved forward to further strengthen its human rights-related institutional and legal framework.

83. The delegation acknowledged the support of the international community and of the country's key development and regional partners; Kiribati looked forward to continuing that partnership. The delegation reiterated that the greatest challenge remained the adverse effects that climate system changes had on the right of the people of Kiribati to survive: the UPR process would mean nothing if climate change were not addressed as an urgent and major challenge to human rights for all.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations**

84. **The following recommendations will be examined by Kiribati, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the twenty-ninth session of the Human Rights Council, taking place in June and July 2015.**

84.1. **Accede and fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and accede to the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (Estonia);**

84.2. **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the two optional protocols thereto (Estonia);**

84.3. **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its protocols (Montenegro);**

84.4. **Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Spain);**

84.5. **Ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and its Optional Protocol and establish a national institution for human rights in accordance with the Paris Principles, seeking international technical cooperation if necessary (Timor-Leste);**

84.6. **Ratify the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Second Optional Protocol, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Argentina);**

84.7. **Sign and ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (France);**

84.8. **Sign and ratify core international human rights instruments, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) (Canada);**

84.9. **Take measures to ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Trinidad and Tobago);**

84.10. **Ratify core international human rights conventions — prioritising the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention against Torture (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

84.11. **Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Ghana);**

84.12. **Consider ratifying the Rome Statute on the International Criminal Court (Ghana);**

84.13. **Consider ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Ghana);**

** The conclusions and recommendations have not been edited.

84.14. **Consider signing and ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Indonesia);**

84.15. **Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment, as previously recommended (Denmark);**

84.16. **Ratify the Convention against Torture (Algeria);**

84.17. **Sign and ratify those core international human rights instruments to which Kiribati is not yet a party, particularly the ICCPR and its first and second protocols (Italy);**

84.18. **Accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and fully implement its provisions (Italy);**

84.19. **Accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and implement it into national law (Netherlands);**

84.20. **Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court as well as its Agreement on Privileges and Immunities without formulating any reservation (Uruguay);**

84.21. **Accede to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Armenia);**

84.22. **Consider acceding to the remaining core international human rights instruments, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Kenya);**

84.23. **Ratify the major international instruments, including the ICCPR and the ICESCR (Sierra Leone);**

84.24. **Consider accession to the major international human rights instruments which it is not yet a party to, including ICESCR and ICCPR, and the two optional protocols thereto (Namibia);**

84.25. **Ratify the ICESCR as an important tool to give greater effectiveness to the protection of human rights in the context of climate change, as well as the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Convention against Torture (Portugal);**

84.26. **Complete the process of ratification of the two Optional Protocols to the CRC (Algeria);**

84.27. **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Argentina);**

84.28. **Consider taking initial steps towards the ratification of other international human rights instruments that it is not yet a party to (Philippines);**

84.29. **Strengthen efforts on the full and effective implementation of the United Nations human rights conventions that the country acceded to (South Africa);**

84.30. **Devise a national strategy for the ratification of or adhesion to the core international human rights treaties (Costa Rica);**

84.31. **Amend its Constitution to include sex, gender and disability as grounds for non-discrimination (Israel);**

84.32. **Strengthen legal frameworks to effectively eliminate violence against women (Sierra Leone);**

84.33. **Conduct a wider review of its penal code in assessing its effectiveness to address domestic violence cases (New Zealand);**

84.34. **Ensure the appropriate implementation of the Te Rau N Te Mweenga Law from 2014 to combat gender-based violence (Spain);**

84.35. **Ensure the effective implementation of the Family Peace Act to address the issue of domestic violence (Sri Lanka);**

84.36. **Swiftly finalize the Family Peace Act Implementation Plan to ensure the Act is effective in providing protection and redress for victims of domestic violence (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

84.37. **Implement the Family Peace Act (2014) as a matter of priority to address domestic violence (Fiji);**

84.38. **Consider strengthening the independence of the Kiribati National Human Rights Task Force so that it complies with the Paris Principles (Germany);**

84.39. **Ensure that the Child Work Policy complies with human rights obligations and standards (Germany);**

84.40. **Establish an inter-institutional coordination mechanism to promote gender equality and the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Mexico);**

84.41. **Consider developing Human Rights Indicators, as suggested by the OHCHR, as an instrument that allows for a more precise and coherent evaluation of national human rights policies (Portugal);**

84.42. **Make every effort to finalize policies in the areas of disability, inclusive education, child labor, gender equality and women's development and to progress in achieving measurable results in their implementation within the time frame prior to its next UPR (Solomon Islands);**

84.43. **Continue its work towards the development of a National Disability Policy and a Child Labour Policy (Trinidad and Tobago);**

84.44. **Complete the CEDAW reports before the due date in 2015 (New Zealand);**

84.45. **Speed up formalities for the submission of pending reports to CEDAW (Spain);**

84.46. **Consider issuing standing invitations to all special procedures (Ghana);**

84.47. **Extend standing invitations to all human rights special procedures (Montenegro);**

84.48. **Take all measures necessary to eliminate discrimination against women in all areas, including access to land and employment, as well as economic and political participation (Namibia);**

84.49. **Design a targeted campaign challenging patriarchal attitudes and gender stereotypes (Slovenia);**

84.50. **Decriminalize homosexuality and sign the joint declaration of the United Nations General Assembly of 18 December 2008 regarding human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity (France);**

84.51. **Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex (Slovenia);**

84.52. **Adopt measures for the decriminalization of consensual same sex sexual relations (Chile)**

84.53. **Introduce legislation to satisfy its commitments on equality and non-discrimination, including as it pertains to same sex relations (Canada);**

84.54. **Adopt legislation prohibiting all forms of discrimination of individuals, based on race, colour of the skin, religion, national or ethnic origin, disability, aesthetic aspect, gender, sexual identity or orientation (Uruguay);**

84.55. **Strengthen the measures aimed at guaranteeing gender equality, in particular with regard to the transfer of Kiribati nationality to the children of Kiribati women born abroad, in compliance with article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Argentina);**

84.56. **Halt any plans to reinstate the death penalty (Sweden);**

84.57. **Establish a formal moratorium on the death penalty, with a view to ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR (Australia);**

84.58. **Implement the National Action Plan Eliminating Sexual and Gender Based Violence and review its laws, policies and practices which perpetuate discrimination against women and girls and their marginalization, in accordance with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, to which Kiribati is a party (France);**

84.59. **Take all necessary measures to address domestic violence and sexual harassment as well as social discrimination against women, in accordance with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Italy);**

84.60. **Continue to vigorously implement the National Approach to Eliminating Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Kiribati to ensure the full enjoyment of human rights for all persons, and accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Germany);**

84.61. **Continue efforts in the implementation of its National Approach to Eliminating Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Kiribati (South Africa);**

84.62. **Enact legislation to cover all forms of violence against women (including physical, sexual, trafficking, sexual harassment, stalking, psychological and economic), protection orders, ancillary civil orders, criminal process and procedure, evidence laws and police powers (Ireland);**

84.63. **Reinforce its policies and develop specific programs aimed at preventing and effectively responding to domestic violence against women, including cases of rape within the family (Brazil);**

84.64. **Continue to implement initiatives such as a referral network (SafeNet) and pursue preventive measures aimed at reducing the levels of violence against women (Australia);**

84.65. **Strengthen the measures to stop violence against women, including information and awareness-raising programs (Chile);**

84.66. **Continue to take steps to tackle gender-based violence (Singapore);**

84.67. **Keep its commitment and continue to work with partners nationally, regionally and internationally to implement its action plan to promote women's rights and combat violence against women (Israel);**

84.68. **Continue to take concrete measures to prevent violence and sexual offences against women and children and to ensure the prosecution of perpetrators of such violence (Netherlands);**

84.69. **Intensify its efforts in raising awareness within communities and providing additional training for the police and the judiciary to ensure that victims of sexual and gender-based violence receive adequate medical support and legal aid (Thailand);**

84.70. **Pursue preventative measures on domestic violence such as community education and police training (New Zealand);**

84.71. **Undertake further work to ensure that the law is adequate to prosecute cases involving domestic violence and that such laws are properly enforced through, for example, increased police capacity-building and the appointment of female officers (New Zealand);**

84.72. **Repeal the right "to administer reasonable punishment" and clearly prohibit corporal punishment in all settings, including in the home (Sweden);**

84.73. **Continue reinforcing the plans and programs for the eradication of corporal punishment of children in the schools as well as in the home (Chile);**

84.74. **Efficiently combat international trafficking in young women and prosecute the authors of such crimes (France);**

84.75. **Actively conduct education and awareness campaigns on the issue of child prostitution, particularly in well-known meeting places of foreign crew members. These campaigns should make clear that under Kiribati Law, the crime of sex trafficking includes subjecting a child to prostitution even in the absence of transnational movement or the use of force or coercion (United States of America);**

84.76. **Step up the implementation of existing legislation against sexual exploitation of children and adolescents in the country, as well as in its territorial waters, including through raising public awareness on how to prevent and fight this unacceptable practice (Brazil);**

84.77. **Adopt a list of hazardous work activities prohibited for children, and better enforce existing laws to fully protect children from the worst forms of child labour and all forms of sexual exploitation (United States of America);**

84.78. **Establish formal procedures to proactively identify trafficking victims among vulnerable populations and refer them to protective services (United States of America);**

84.79. **Promote and support the participation of women in decision-making at all levels (New Zealand);**

84.80. **Continue policies and programs aiming at the improvement of women's participation in the political life and decision-making processes, including through measures aimed at reserving a quota in positions in the**

Parliament and Administrations for women, following international good practices (Costa Rica);

84.81. **Decriminalize defamation and include it under the Civil Code in accordance with international standards, develop self-regulatory mechanisms of the media and strengthen the professional standards of journalism in the country (Estonia);**

84.82. **Take steps to ensure the availability of adequate food and freedom from hunger for its citizens (Ireland);**

84.83. **Heed the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation regarding improvements to water and sanitation infrastructure (Slovenia);**

84.84. **Strengthen implementation of the human right to sanitation at the national level as well as the promotion of hygiene (Spain);**

84.85. **Ensure affordable access to water and sanitation, and that the price paid for access to these rights is not incompatible with access to other rights such as food, housing or education (Spain);**

84.86. **Strengthen its legal and institutional frameworks with respect to the implementation of human rights and the right to water and sanitation (Trinidad and Tobago);**

84.87. **Continue consolidating the programs of social protection which are being implemented in order to offer greater well-being and quality of life to its people (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**

84.88. **Continue the implementation of actions included in the national Development Plan in order to achieve a greater social protection and gender equality (Cuba);**

84.89. **Continue its efforts to reduce the maternal and infant mortality rates (Indonesia);**

84.90. **Urgently take appropriate measures to address high infant and child mortality rates (Maldives);**

84.91. **Adopt sanitation and residual water treatment strategies in order to prevent the high rate of child mortality due to water-related diseases (Mexico);**

84.92. **Continue to improve its health system and ensure access to quality health for all (Singapore);**

84.93. **Improve its public health system, especially to upgrade the existing facilities in both central and local hospitals nationwide, as well as to put in place measures to reduce infant mortality, malnutrition, and epidemics, especially HIV/AIDS (Thailand);**

84.94. **Further promote the right to health in Kiribati, in particular by providing access to essential health-care facilities (Armenia);**

84.95. **Following the enactment of the Education Act (2013), adopt policies and regulations to strengthen access to and quality of education, which is free and compulsory for all school-aged children (Maldives);**

84.96. **Finalize the development of the Inclusive Education Policy giving effect to the right to education of all school-aged children and young persons (South Africa);**

84.97. **Ensure birth registration is available to all its citizens and provide free, inclusive and compulsory education for all children (Sierra Leone);**

84.98. **Continue its efforts to raise education standards and improve access to education (Singapore);**

84.99. **Expedite its work on policy formulation on inclusive education with particular focus on girls (Sri Lanka);**

84.100. **Enshrine the right to education in its Constitution and allow pregnant girls to pursue their education in schools of their choice (Timor-Leste);**

84.101. **Ensure that pregnant girls and young mothers have the opportunity to continue their education (Slovenia);**

84.102. **Further increase inputs in education and further improve school enrolment rate (China);**

84.103. **Continue to boost its well-established education policies which guarantee a quality education system for all (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**

84.104. **Continue the elaboration of the National Disability Policy and ensure effective implementation in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention (Germany);**

84.105. **Continue its efforts to promote and protect all human rights, in particular those of persons with disabilities (Portugal);**

84.106. **Strengthen policies on accessibility to ensure that persons with disabilities can enjoy their rights (Spain);**

84.107. **Continue to take into consideration the adverse impacts of climate change on people's access to food and clean water, particularly the most vulnerable sectors of society (Philippines);**

84.108. **Consider strengthening the positive impact expected from the Kiribati Joint Implementation Plan on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management on human rights through training of relevant stakeholders on human rights approaches to climate change and disaster risk management (Solomon Islands);**

84.109. **Continue its leadership role and advocacy with the international community, including through the Coalition of Low Lying Atoll Nations on Climate Change and the Alliance of Small Island States, on the need for ambitious and binding targets for greenhouse gas emissions in order to mitigate the negative effects of climate change on human rights (Fiji);**

84.110. **Continue its mainstreaming of climate change adaptation across developmental activities with the assistance of the international community (Fiji);**

84.111. **Pay attention to the effects of climate change on environment and social development (China);**

84.112. **Cooperate with United Nations agencies, regional bodies and development partners in building capacities, training and exchanging human rights expertise and experiences with other Pacific Island countries (Israel);**

84.113. **Request technical assistance from the United Nations programmes, funds and bodies to comply with the commitments made in terms of human rights such as the presentation of reports, and the drafting of plans and programmes to strengthen human rights (Mexico);**

84.114. **Intensify efforts to secure support and assistance from the international community in pursuing its climate change adaptation and mitigation plans (Philippines);**

84.115. **Seek technical assistance from relevant United Nations agencies in order to better implement its international human rights obligations (Sierra Leone).**

85. **All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

Annex

[English only]

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Kiribati was headed by the Minister for Women, Youth and Social Affairs, Honorable Tangariki Reete, and composed of the following members:

- Honorable Titabu Tabane, Attorney General;
- H.E. Makurita Baaro, Ambassador of Kiribati to the United Nations in New York;
- Mr. Moote Korina Anata, Deputy Secretary for Ministry for Women, Youth and Social Affairs;
- Mr. Teurakai Ukenio, Child Protection Officer;
- Mrs. Anne Kautu, Senior Women Development Officer;
- Ms. Tarema Henry, Desk Officer for Multilateral Affairs, Permanent Mission of Kiribati to the United Nations in New York.

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Universal Periodic Review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Guinea

* The annex to the present report is circulated as received.

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, held its twenty-first session from 19 to 30 January 2015. The review of Guinea was held at the 3rd meeting on 20 January 2015. The delegation of Guinea was headed by Khalifa Gassama Diaby, Minister of Human Rights and Civil Liberties. At its 10th meeting, held on 23 January 2015, the Working Group adopted the report on Guinea.

2. On 13 January 2015, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Guinea: Albania, Bangladesh and the Congo.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Guinea:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/21/GIN/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/21/GIN/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/21/GIN/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by the Czech Republic, Germany, Norway, Slovenia, Spain and the United States of America was transmitted to Guinea through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the universal periodic review (UPR).

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The delegation of the Republic of Guinea began by saying that, while committed to the democratization process and building a society that respected human rights, the country lacked a democratic tradition and truly democratic institutional experience. It went on to say that the matter of basing institutions on democratic principles so as to allow the State to better address its obligation to promote and protect human rights remained an absolute necessity and priority.

6. Noting that the universal periodic review (UPR) provided an excellent opportunity to objectively analyse human rights developments, the delegation thanked all the countries that had helped it to make progress in that area through the recommendations made in 2010. Noting that those recommendations had been made at a time of political instability and transition to democracy, the delegation said that, since the inauguration of the third republic, the Government had made considerable efforts with regard to the promotion and protection of human rights, especially in terms of implementing UPR recommendations. Thus, for the first time in the country's history, a ministry responsible for the protection of human rights and public liberties had been appointed in Guinea.

7. In the areas of justice and defence, the delegation said that reforms had been undertaken, including the creation of a national committee to manage the reform of the justice sector; the establishment of the Supreme Council of Justice; the promulgation of the law on the status of judges; the ongoing review of the Code of Military Justice, the Code of

Criminal Procedure, the Criminal Code and the Civil Code; the forthcoming entry into service of the military court; and the establishment of an independent national human rights institution.

8. With regard to the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women and vulnerable groups, the delegation noted that significant reforms had been made by the Government in order to allow them full enjoyment of their rights. In that context, it mentioned the preparation of a national strategy to combat violence against women; the implementation of a project providing legal assistance to victims of violence; the adoption of a law on reproductive health, along with its implementing orders, that prohibited and criminalized female genital mutilation; the inauguration of a national committee to combat trafficking in persons; and the ratification of all conventions relating to the rights of the child.

9. With regard to the fight against torture, the delegation said that Guinea was committed to banning torture, in particular by penalizing perpetrators. In that respect, it pointed out that a chief of the gendarmerie had been sentenced; a commanding officer and two senior officers of the armed forces had been charged, and three high-ranking gendarmerie officers had been suspended.

10. With regard to the events of 28 September 2009, the delegation said that the Government had undertaken to conduct fair and equitable proceedings. It was worth noting that a pool of investigating magistrates had been established; more than 400 victims and witnesses had given statements; six persons had been charged, one of whom was subject to a detention order, and persons outside the country had given statements by letters rogatory. The delegation added, however, that the next stages in the proceedings would be more aggressive in order to achieve faster progress.

11. The delegation also mentioned the unprecedented health crisis Guinea was experiencing on account of the outbreak of the Ebola virus disease. It said that the ordeal had been accompanied by excessive and irrational panic, which had led to unjustifiable situations, such as the stigmatization of nationals of the countries affected by the epidemic, and of persons who had recovered in relation to their families, places of work and society in general. The delegation thanked the United Nations and other partners for the solidarity they had shown towards Guinea.

12. The delegation said that the Government's commitment to eradicating the human rights violations that still occurred in Guinea was irrevocable. It said that the authorities were quite prepared to take on all partnerships, even critical, that worked towards the promotion and protection of human rights, while being mindful of the sociocultural and political context of the country. In that regard, the delegation requested support, aid and political, technical and institutional assistance for Guinea in all human rights matters.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

13. During the interactive dialogue, 77 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

14. Trinidad and Tobago commended progress achieved, highlighting the establishment of the Ministry of Human Rights and Civil Liberties, initiatives to strengthen human rights education and training and measures on health, education and employment and to improve the lives of women and girls.

15. Turkey expressed solidarity with Guinea in its fight against Ebola. It encouraged the Ministry of Human Rights and Civil Liberties to put in place targeted initiatives. It also encouraged Guinea to continue efforts to ensure access to education without discrimination.

16. The United Arab Emirates commended efforts to implement commitments made under the previous UPR. It asked for information regarding the observatory for women and children set up under the Ministry of Human Rights and Civil Liberties.

17. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland encouraged Guinea to ensure that female genital mutilation (FGM) continued to decline; and to make progress in holding accountable State actors responsible for human rights violations, ensuring that members of the security forces responded to judicial summons.

18. The United States of America called on the Government to hold accountable perpetrators of the 2009 stadium massacre. It encouraged Guinea to continue cooperating with the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict.

19. Uruguay highlighted steps taken to implement UPR recommendations from the first cycle to establish of a national human rights institution, and encouraged Guinea to complete the process needed to enable that institution to fully exercise its mandate.

20. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted that, despite a lack of resources, exacerbated by Ebola, Guinea had continued to implement its human rights programmes. It highlighted work at the interministerial level to develop policies for the family and against gender-based violence.

21. Zimbabwe noted with appreciation the establishment of the Ministry of Human Rights and Civil Liberties, the reform process in the defence and security sector, and practical measures for the protection of women and girls and to promote equality.

22. Albania commended the establishment of a department for the promotion of human rights. It welcomed the improvement of the legal framework and measures to combat harmful practices for women and children as well as trafficking and exploitation for the purpose of prostitution.

23. Algeria noted the ratification of international instruments and the submission of reports to treaty bodies. It welcomed efforts to eliminate violence against women, in particular FGM, and initiatives for the protection of the rights of the child and to fight poverty.

24. Angola noted the persistence of FGM, particularly in rural areas, and called on Guinea to continue efforts to eradicate that practice. It urged the international community to continue to help Guinea to ensure stability and progress in socioeconomic areas.

25. Argentina commended the establishment of Ministry of Human Rights and Civil Liberties and urged Guinea to strengthen cooperation with the OHCHR, highlighting the opportunities offered by a country office.

26. Australia commended Guinea on its 2010 presidential elections, the creation of a special police unit on trafficking and the development of a code of conduct for police. It urged Guinea to strongly consider human rights in its Ebola response and recovery efforts.

27. Bangladesh commended the commitment of Guinea to undertaking reforms aimed at building democracy. It highlighted that, despite challenges, progress had been made through a variety of actions, noting particularly progress in the health sector and action to reduce maternal mortality.

28. Benin commended action taken to implement the recommendations received during the first UPR, as well as the adoption of the new Constitution, which enshrines fundamental human rights principles, such as equality and non-discrimination.

29. Botswana expressed solidarity with Guinea regarding the health crisis following the outbreak of Ebola. It noted efforts to ensure civil and political rights and appreciated reforms to establish constitutional order and reform of the judiciary and security system.

30. Brazil noted efforts to combat discrimination and violence against women. It welcomed the process to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and encouraged further progress in that regard. It commended the commitment to acceding to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OP-CAT) and extending a standing invitation to special procedures.

31. Brunei Darussalam recognized progress on the rights of vulnerable groups, especially women and children. It highlighted initiatives on children, particularly the adoption of the Children's Code, which brought legislation into line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

32. Burundi welcomed the establishment of the Supreme Council of Justice and the increase in judges' salaries, which were important measures to guarantee the independence of the judiciary. It highlighted measures to prohibit the dismissal of women for reasons related to pregnancy.

33. Cabo Verde welcomed efforts made, highlighting broad legislative reform and reform of the judiciary, the law on health and procreation in the context of the fight against FGM, and the adoption of a minimum wage and a plan of action on children.

34. Canada asked about the status of the special court for the crimes that took place in 2009, particularly why those responsible had not yet appeared in court. It commended Guinea on progress made, notably its process of transition to democracy.

35. The Central African Republic commended Guinea for the courageous reforms being undertaken to build a democratic society respectful of human rights. It further welcomed efforts made by Guinea for the promotion and protection of children's rights.

36. Chad commended Guinea for the follow-up and implementation of recommendations from its previous review, notwithstanding the challenges, in particular the fight against the Ebola outbreak. It urged the international community to assist Guinea in its efforts to promote and protect human rights.

37. Aware of the challenges and complex realities that Guinea faced, Chile took note of efforts made by Guinea to advance human rights, through the strengthening of its legal and institutional framework.

38. Returning to a subject mentioned in the opening statement, namely the structural problem, the delegation of Guinea explained that the country's institutional and structural past was very complex, and that it currently faced two major challenges: building the State and democracy at the same time. It added that it was worth bearing in mind the fragility of public institutions and democratic and institutional culture, as well as a certain in-built cultural and sociological resistance. However, that did not mean that the public authorities did not accept responsibility for the promotion and protection of human rights.

39. With regard to the ratification of a number of optional protocols, the delegation said that the Government was willing to make sure that Guinea ratified them and that the necessary mechanisms to do so were in place.

40. With regard to the death penalty, the delegation recalled that a de facto moratorium had been in place for several years. It added that the reform of the Criminal Code has begun and that the Ministry of Human Rights and Public Liberties planned to launch an awareness-raising campaign on the abolition of the death penalty.

41. On the question of fair trials, the delegation said that the matter was related to the massacres of 28 September 2009 and to the difficulties faced by fragile societies that had experienced such tragedies in terms of human resources, expertise and political challenges. The delegation said that trials relating to the events of 28 September would go ahead and would be thorough and rigorous. They had to be held for the sake of the honour of Guinea and of the victims, particularly the women who had been savagely attacked and assaulted.

42. Regarding the registration of children at birth, the delegation said that the Government was making considerable efforts to deal with the issue, in particular by decentralizing the civil registry to the communal level and by making the issue of civil status certificates free of charge.

43. As far as the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict was concerned, the delegation confirmed that the instruments of ratification were currently being transmitted to the depositary of the Convention.

44. With regard to violence against women, particularly female genital mutilation, the delegation admitted that it was a real problem and that the Government was tackling it with determination, although it ran up against a certain cultural resistance and a number of traditional institutions, which often influenced society more than the State. The Government had undertaken an awareness-raising campaign and had initiated some legislative changes and innovations, but they had not produced the expected results. The delegation explained that financial aspects needed to be considered, as well as the problem of retraining the people who performed female genital mutilation.

45. The delegation recalled that it had extended an invitation to the United Nations special rapporteurs, which had been delayed by the health crisis due to the Ebola virus.

46. The delegation said that the Government was committed to continuing its efforts to defend the principle of equality between men and women, women's access to education, the place of women in the world of work and the rights of women in the family. In order to deal with those issues, Guinea would appreciate the support of the international community and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

47. With regard to the violence that occurred during demonstrations, the delegation agreed that law-enforcement agencies needed to be trained and to have a clear idea of their duties, besides mastering the appropriate techniques of maintaining order. It was also necessary to train demonstrators and activists from political parties. The delegation confirmed that the role of the State was to send out strong signals regarding sanctions in order to remind all parties that all rights were enshrined in law and should not prejudice others. Furthermore, the delegation added that Guinea was still considering and seeking the means of bringing an end to the culture of impunity.

48. The delegation said that the Government was working to ensure that violations committed by security forces that did not fall within the competence of the military courts were dealt with by the ordinary courts.

49. Regarding the forthcoming elections, the delegation said that the Government was determined to make every effort to ensure that they took place peacefully and in line with democratic principles.

50. The delegation thanked all those who were assisting Guinea in the health crisis it was undergoing, but said that the crisis would not prevent the Government from undertaking reforms for the promotion and protection of human rights.

51. China appreciated progress made by Guinea since the last review and noted the formulation of numerous laws and regulations, the strengthening of institutional building and efforts in eliminating traditional harmful practices to women and children.

52. Comoros highlighted the results achieved by Guinea, in the context of the crisis faced in recent years. It hoped that, with the support of the international community, Guinea would be able to meet its objectives as reflected in its national report and the recommendations received.

53. The Congo welcomed Guinean efforts, including to combat traditional practices that were harmful to women and children, the ratification of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT) and the process to address the events that occurred in 2009. It encouraged Guinea to strengthen its cooperation with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council.

54. Costa Rica welcomed efforts to consolidate democracy through elections and encouraged Guinea to continue promoting participation. It noted the importance of establishing independent State mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights, including the establishment of guarantees to prohibit torture.

55. Côte d'Ivoire welcomed the adoption of a national plan of action to ensure follow-up to recommendations from the UPR, the treaty bodies and the International Fact-Finding Commission, in the areas of institutional strengthening and human rights policies.

56. Cuba highlighted the importance of international cooperation in the fight against the Ebola outbreak and urged the international community to step up cooperation and financial assistance to Guinea, including for strengthening of its health infrastructure.

57. The Czech Republic appreciated the information provided on the implementation of the previous UPR recommendations.

58. While welcoming significant efforts made by Guinea to address the human rights situation and the implementation of UPR recommendations, the Democratic Republic of the Congo took note of remaining challenges.

59. Denmark commended Guinea for its constructive engagement with the UPR and for its progress made in the promotion and protection of human rights. It hoped that concrete steps were being undertaken to honour commitments made to ratify OP-CAT. Denmark offered assistance from the CAT Initiative, if deemed helpful.

60. Djibouti appreciated the various actions undertaken by Guinea, notably the measures undertaken to meet its due reporting obligations to treaty bodies. It wished Guinea success in meeting its objectives for the realization of human rights.

61. Egypt recognized important measures to promote human rights in Guinea, in particular reform programmes in the areas of justice, defence, security and administration. It highlighted the establishment of the Ministry of Human Rights and Civil Liberties with the task of implementing and monitoring human rights policies.

62. Equatorial Guinea welcomed efforts made by Guinea to reinforce the promotion and protection of human rights, in particular in the areas of education, work and equality. Guinea had adopted policies to reinforce human rights education and to ensure equal access to education for women and girls at all levels.

63. Ethiopia commended Guinea for identifying priority areas in the promotion and protection of human rights, and enhancing the legal framework. It encouraged Guinea to continue working on the political, economic and social development areas.

64. France welcomed progress made by Guinea towards achieving the democratic transition, establishing democratic institutions and reinforcing the rule of law. It hoped that the 2015 elections would be respectful of democratic norms and human rights.

65. Gabon welcomed the cooperation of Guinea with international human rights protection mechanisms and efforts to implement the UPR recommendations. It appreciated measures undertaken to fight violence against women and girls, as well as with regard to the right to education.

66. Germany acknowledged progress made by Guinea in addressing critical governance and human rights problems. It commended Guinea for its tireless efforts in the fight against Ebola and expressed sympathy to the victims and their families. It expressed concern about incidents of excessive and disproportionate use of force during demonstrations.

67. Ghana expressed solidarity with Guinea in its efforts to combat Ebola. It commended measures adopted to combat traditional practices that were harmful to women and children, as well as ongoing efforts to respond to allegations of torture.

68. Honduras welcomed efforts to implement recommendations from the first review and commended the decision to establish a commission, in which civil society would participate, to review all national legislation with a view to bringing it into conformity with international human rights law.

69. India appreciated the acknowledgement of Guinea of the challenges in maintaining peace and political stability, ensuring the protection of fundamental rights and pursuing socioeconomic development. It commended Guinea for its efforts to strengthen the rule of law and consolidation of democracy.

70. Indonesia welcomed the decision to establish a department responsible for the promotion and protection of human rights and noted measures undertaken in order to eliminate the backlog in the submission of reports to the treaty bodies. It also expressed support and solidarity in addressing the Ebola crisis.

71. Ireland was concerned by restrictions on the exercise of the right to peaceful assembly and the low rate of prosecutions of those who perform FGM.

72. Italy commended Guinea for its commitment to gender equality and the protection of women from harmful practices, as well as the decision to include human rights education in school curricula. It also welcomed the ratification of a number of international instruments.

73. Japan welcomed efforts made to establish various mechanisms for human rights protection since the amendment of the Constitution and the democratic presidential elections. It encouraged Guinea to further promote gender equality and advancement of the status of women under the new Constitution.

74. Morocco welcomed the ratification of CAT and the establishment of a commission to reflect on redress mechanisms for victims of human rights violations. It also congratulated Guinea for the incorporation of human rights education in the various school grades.

75. Luxembourg expressed its solidarity and support to Guinea regarding the Ebola outbreak. In the approach to the 2015 elections, it encouraged Guinea to continue to use the framework of political support and international coordination represented by the Guinea configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission.

76. Madagascar welcomed the efforts undertaken in strengthening the fight against traditional practices and policies in the field of education and employment. It asked the

international community to support Guinea in the implementation of its human rights commitments.

77. Malaysia recognized the strengthening of the rule of law and democratization process and commended Guinea for its efforts in developing the necessary institutional framework for the advancement and protection of women, girls and children.

78. Mexico commended progress made since the first UPR cycle. It particularly noted the measures adopted to promote education, health and employment. It also welcomed the creation of the national strategy to combat gender-based violence and the adoption of the national policy to protect children.

79. Montenegro asked for information on the measures undertaken to ensure the adequate care and protection of children deprived of their family environment, as well as on the activities undertaken to enforce existing legislation prohibiting FGM.

80. Kuwait welcomed initiatives to establish relations with the international financial institutions, including the Islamic Development Bank in order to promote social and economic development.

81. Namibia commended Guinea on the significant strides taken to promote and protect the human rights since the last UPR, as well as the efforts undertaken to end impunity for violence against women and children. It expressed solidarity in the fight against the Ebola outbreak.

82. The Netherlands commended the efforts in combating the Ebola outbreak and ensuring socioeconomic health rights. It expressed concern that FGM remained a serious and widespread problem, despite the Government's attempt to eliminate the practice. It highlighted the importance of continuing the investigations to combat impunity for human rights violations.

83. Nicaragua noted the efforts undertaken to strengthen the human rights system, despite the socioeconomic, health and resource constraints. It stressed the importance of political will to build a country that lives in democracy and in the enjoyment of the rule of law.

84. While acknowledging progress made since the last review, including holding free elections and transition to civilian rule, Norway took note of the violence associated with demonstrations, which continued to be a challenge. It also expressed concern about the rights of girls and women.

85. The Philippines recognized the policies of the Government of Guinea to combat traditional practices that were harmful to women and children, such as FGM. It appreciated the determination to address recurrent human rights violations, a number of which were still to be fully investigated and prosecuted.

86. While welcoming the efforts to advance women's rights, Portugal expressed concern at the reports of violence against women and girls and that a significant proportion of girls and women were still subject to FGM. It also welcomed the creation of the interministerial committee on human rights.

87. The Republic of Korea acknowledged efforts to promote and protect human rights since the first UPR of Guinea, in particular through the establishment of the Ministry of Human Rights and Civil Liberties and the national observatory on violence against women and children, and the adoption and implementation of the strategic plan against FGM.

88. Rwanda noted the great progress achieved since 2010, in particular the return to constitutional order, the creation of Ministry of Human Rights and Civil Liberties and the many reforms undertaken to establish genuine rule of law.

89. Senegal welcomed the important measures taken by Guinea, including the adoption of the new Constitution, the creation of the department for human rights and the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

90. Sierra Leone urged the international community to provide the technical assistance and financial support to effectively address the post-crisis reconstruction. It commended Guinea for bringing its domestic legislation into line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its efforts to enforce legislation against child, early and enforced marriage and FGM.

91. Singapore commended Guinea for its constructive engagement in the UPR process. It also noted efforts undertaken to strengthen capacity in the country's justice system and to promote equality in health, notwithstanding the current challenges arising from the Ebola crisis.

92. While noting the efforts to advance the fight against impunity for human rights violations, Slovakia highlighted that more decisive action was required. It noted only limited progress in areas such as freedom of assembly, administration of justice and prison conditions since the first UPR cycle.

93. While welcoming efforts undertaken to strengthen the regulatory framework on violence against women and harmful traditional practices, Slovenia was concerned that those acts remained common and were rarely prosecuted. It noted serious challenges in the areas of education, access to health services, malnutrition and child labour. Slovenia also reiterated the recommendations that it had made during the previous UPR.

94. South Africa commended the efforts aimed at giving new impetus to economic and social development and in the fight against Ebola outbreak. It encouraged Guinea to continue all efforts towards the promotion, protection and fulfilment of human rights, including the right to development.

95. While acknowledging the progress made in bringing to justice cases of extrajudicial killings, rape and torture, Spain stated that the number of cases remained high. It also recognized the progress undertaken in relation with the events of September 2009, in which many people were killed, women raped and police abuses committed.

96. The Sudan commended Guinea for the adoption of the new Constitution and the establishment of the Ministry of Human Rights and Civil Liberties and the interministerial standing committee for the drafting of reports.

97. Sweden highlighted that child marriages threatened the health and lives of girls and limited their future prospects. It also stated that not one single persecution had taken place for the crimes and human rights violations during the 2009 massacre.

98. Thailand looked forward to the effective implementation of the policies for the advancement of women. It also expressed concern at the inadequate health-care infrastructure and public awareness of the hygiene measures to be observed to fight against communicable diseases.

99. Timor-Leste noted with appreciation the creation of a provisional national reconciliation commission and a special police unit to combat human trafficking. It also took note of the several measures taken to improve conditions of detention.

100. Togo welcomed the measures undertaken by the Government to stop the spread of the Ebola virus as well as the gradual establishment of republican institutions.

101. Tunisia encouraged Guinea to ratify OP-CAT and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, establish an independent

national human rights i nstitution and intensify eff orts to fight more effectively against torture. It welcomed the c establishment of a country office by OHCHR.

102. The delegation of f Guinea said that the establishment of the Ministry of Human Rights and Public Liberti ies was an important step as far as the protection of human rights was concerned, although it was not enough to solve all problems relating to the violation of those rights. According to the delegation, the Government was endeavouring to improve the human rights situation, de spite the burden of its political past and sociocultural attitudes.

103. The delegation ann nounced that the following month national consultations on human rights would be held in or der to take stock of the main problems that existing not only at the civil and political, but also at the economic and sociocultural levels.

104. The delegation sa id that the Government had decided to include human rights education in school curric ula, ranging from primary school to university.

105. Regarding the pro oblem of violence against women, the delegation said that an observatory had been set up in that respect. It added that such violence was intolerable for all those who valued huma an rights and those fighting for gender equality.

106. The delegation also announced the forthcoming opening of a national workshop on impunity, a problem that should not be confined to the will of public authorities, which were still in gestation in G uinea.

107. The delegation an nounced the establishment of an interministerial committee responsible for drafting pe riodic reports for submission to treaty bodies, with the support of the Office of the High Co mmissioner for Human Rights. Another committee had been put in charge of following up t he recommendations made during the UPR.

108. On the question of f national reconciliation, the delegation noted that Guinea had expressed its political will by instituting an interim committee for national reconciliation. The Ministry of Human R ights and Public Liberties was the Government's focal point for the United Nations Peaceb uilding Fund, and the fund gathering effort continued in order to support the work of that co mmittee.

109. As far as torture w as concerned, the delegation pointed out that Guinea had made considerable progress. It explained that only quite recently, the practice had been widespread in Guinean soc iety but had come to be seen as a shameful act. It added that all those responsible for acts o f torture should be punished severely, and it was planned to add a definition of torture in the e Criminal Code that was in line with the provisions of article 1 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. The delegation n confirmed that it was also necessary to train the defence and security services in that resp ect so that they were more respectful of citizens' rights.

110. With regard to parity y, the delegation noted that according to Guinean legislation at least 30 per cent of those included on lists of candidates had to be women. It added, however, that the aim was n ot merely to mention women on the lists, but also to ensure that they were duly elected.

111. With regard to the r ights of assembly and demonstration, the delegation said that Guinea was working to str engthen its legal framework with a view to improving the exercise of those rights. Mea sures included, in particular, training political party activists in civil r esponsibility and citizen ship. The delegation indicated that the State intended to punish all those responsible for violence, agents of the defence and security forces and demonstrators alike.

112. With regard to prison s, the delegation said that the Ministry of Human Rights and Public Liberties had been a ble to visit all the prisons in the country and that the main problem was prison overcro wding, due to the fact that the existing prisons dated back to

before independence. The delegation confirmed that there were plans to build a new central prison that would meet the relevant international standards. It also mentioned that a new prison observatory had been placed under the Ministry of Human Rights and Public Liberties.

113. Regarding the independent national human rights institution, the delegation said that legislation already existed in that respect and that the aim was to bring the institution legally into line with the Paris Principles.

114. Regarding the problem of female genital mutilation, the delegation explained that the practice was deeply rooted in Guinean society. It noted that a strict and firm approach was needed, together with exemplary punishments, as had been the case with the recent sentencing of three women that practiced excision. The delegation pointed out that some inventiveness would also be required, however, to find alternative solutions for the persons that engaged in the practice, such as offering support for their occupational retraining.

115. Regarding employment for young people and women, the delegation said that a partnership had been set up with the Peacebuilding Fund aimed at implementing projects that favoured their independence. It considered that it would also be necessary to improve the education system by facilitating the enrolment of young girls in school so as to provide them with the skills they needed to prepare for employment.

116. Returning to the question of female genital mutilation, the delegation said that regulatory and legislative measures had been adopted to combat the practice, and that a new complementary law on the subject would soon be adopted. Similarly, the delegation mentioned that a community observatory on access to health care and services for those suffering from AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria had been established.

117. In conclusion, the delegation asserted that Guinea was strongly committed to the protection of human rights. It added that the country at the same time had to work on consolidating the rule of law and managing the situation without compromising institutional reforms and the protection of rights. Lastly, the delegation appealed for the support of the United Nations and Member States to ensure that the promotion and protection of human rights became a reality in Guinea.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations**

118. **The following recommendations will be examined by Guinea which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the twenty-ninth session of the Human Rights Council in June/July 2015:**

118.1 **Consider taking further steps towards the ratification of international human rights instruments that it is not yet a party to (the Philippines);**

118.2 **Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Portugal);**

118.3 **Ratify the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Sierra Leone);**

** The conclusions and recommendations have not been edited.

118.4 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, with the ultimate aim of abolishing the death penalty in all circumstances (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

118.5 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Benin);**

118.6 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Uruguay);**

118.7 **Establish a formal moratorium on the death penalty with a view to ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR (Australia);**

118.8 **Consider taking all necessary steps to introduce a de jure moratorium on capital executions with a view to fully abolishing the death penalty, and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR (Italy);**

118.9 **Accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and establish without delay a de jure moratorium on executions with a view to permanently abolishing the death penalty (Luxembourg);**

118.10 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of death penalty (Montenegro);**

118.11 **Consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR and continue its efforts to increase national awareness in order to secure the abolition of the death penalty (Namibia);**

118.12 **Accelerate the ratification process of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Turkey);**

118.13 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Spain);**

118.14 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Uruguay);**

118.15 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Benin);**

118.16 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Togo);**

118.17 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Montenegro);**

118.18 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and establish the national preventive mechanism at the earliest possible (Costa Rica);**

118.19 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (OP-CAT) and swiftly establish a national preventive mechanism in accordance with the Protocol (Czech Republic);**

118.20 **Intensify efforts to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Denmark);**

118.21 **Proceed with the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Gabon);**

118.22 **Review the status of implementation into domestic law of the Convention against Torture and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention (Germany);**

118.23 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Ghana);**

118.24 **Abolish the death penalty and sign and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR (Portugal);**

118.25 **Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Portugal);**

118.26 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Uruguay);**

118.27 **Proceed with the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Gabon);**

118.28 **Pursue and finalize the ratification process of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Democratic Republic of the Congo);**

118.29 **Smooth the process of the ratification of the Optional Protocol to CEDAW and improve inter-institutional coordination across the civil society organisations, ministerial departments, and other national actors involved in the defence of women's rights (Mexico);**

118.30 **Make every effort to accelerate the process of ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Rwanda);**

118.31 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Uruguay);**

118.32 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Cabo Verde);**

118.33 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (Cabo Verde);**

118.34 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (Slovenia);**

118.35 **Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Slovakia);**

118.36 **Fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and continue full cooperation with the International Criminal Court in its preliminary investigation of the crimes committed on 28 September 2009 and its aftermath (the Netherlands);**

118.37 **Ratify the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court and implement it fully at national level (Slovakia);**

118.38 **Continue to promote the harmonization of laws, so as to make possible the legal framework necessary to implement the Convention against Torture (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**

118.39 **Accelerate the process to adopt the Gender Equality Bill in order to strengthen its efforts to address discrimination against women (Zimbabwe);**

118.40 **Amend its Criminal Code to cover various forms of sexual violence, including marital rape and domestic violence; and enforce all legislation concerning women and girls (Australia);**

118.41 **Strengthen national legislation to combat domestic violence, child prostitution, trafficking and child labour (Botswana);**

118.42 **Adopt legislative and normative measures towards the abolition of the death penalty and commute all those sentenced for prison sentences (Chile);**

118.43 **Strengthen the ongoing legislative processes regarding the equality between men and women (Equatorial Guinea);**

118.44 **Review the existing laws and regulations with a view to ensuring full gender equality in all aspects of life (Slovenia);**

118.45 **Establish a strong and independent national human rights institution, in conformity with the Paris Principles (Costa Rica);**

118.46 **Set up an independent national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles (Egypt);**

118.47 **Support the action of the Ministry of Human Rights and Civil Liberties and take the necessary measures to ensure that the independent national human rights institution is in conformity with the Paris Principles (France);**

118.48 **Accelerate the establishment of the national human rights institution and to ensure is conformity with the Paris Principles (Gabon);**

118.49 **Establish a fully-fledged National Human Rights Institution in full compliance with the Paris Principles (Ghana);**

118.50 **Continue its efforts in the promotion and protection of human rights by establishing a national human rights institution based on the Paris Principles (Indonesia);**

118.51 **Consider setting up an independent national human rights institution that would comply with the Paris Principles, and providing this institution with the necessary resources to effectively fulfil its mandate (Namibia);**

118.52 **Seek assistance in establishing a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Sierra Leone);**

118.53 **Consider establishing a National Human Rights Institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (South Africa);**

118.54 **Continue its efforts for the establishment of the National Human Rights Institution (Sudan);**

118.55 **Set up an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Timor-Leste);**

118.56 **Establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles and provide it with the resources necessary for an effective action (Cabo Verde);**

118.57 **Take effective measures to strengthen the capacity of the newly established human rights institutions including the Ministry of Human Rights and Civil Liberties, and the national observatory on violence against women and children (Republic of Korea);**

118.58 **Update the national action plan for the implementation of the rights of the child, drafted in 2012 (Turkey);**

118.59 **Continue to strengthen its successful national policies, to promote equality in the areas of education, health and employment of women and girls (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**

118.60 **Establish a mechanism for the protection and support of victims aimed to enhance assistance to victims and witnesses (Slovakia);**

118.61 **Develop targeted technical assistance programmes to strengthen the national human rights architecture (Morocco);**

118.62 **Continue efforts towards national reconciliation (Algeria);**

118.63 **Call upon the assistance of United Nations bodies, in the context of the implementation of a comprehensive policy for children with sufficient resources and the reform of the Guinean committee for the monitoring, protection and defence of the rights of the child (Côte d'Ivoire);**

118.64 **Continue its active engagement with its international and regional partners to implement technical cooperation and assistance programs on human rights protection (the Philippines);**

118.65 **Continue utilizing this Inter-ministerial Standing Committee with a view to finalizing other initial and periodic reports to various treaty bodies (Indonesia);**

118.66 **Entrust the Inter-ministerial Committee on Human Rights with drafting the overdue reports to the United Nations Human Rights Treaty Bodies, including on ICESCR, ICCPR, CERD and CRPD (Portugal);**

118.67 **Submit more regularly its reports to the treaty bodies (Senegal);**

118.68 **Intensify on-going efforts to submit its overdue reports to the relevant special procedures mechanisms (Sierra Leone);**

118.69 **Reply positively to all pending requests by the United Nations human rights special procedures (Brazil);**

118.70 **Accept the visit of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence, with a view to providing accountability and redress for victims and their families regarding the events which took place in November 2009 (Brazil);**

118.71 **Consider issuing standing invitations to all Special Procedures (Ghana);**

118.72 **Strengthen its cooperation with the human rights mechanisms, in particular with the special procedures (Niger);**

118.73 **Continue its cooperation with various international organizations particularly the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in order to achieve additional progress in the field of economic, social and cultural rights (United Arab Emirates);**

118.74 **Continue cooperating with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to strengthen human rights education within the judiciary, and the military and security forces (Equatorial Guinea);**

118.75 **Continue collaboration with the international institutions to combat the Ebola virus (Kuwait);**

118.76 **Step up cooperation with the international community, improve its public health care system and raise its capacity in preventing and addressing large scale public health events such as Ebola outbreaks (China);**

118.77 **Continue its national efforts, with the support and assistance of the international community, in the promotion and protection of human rights particularly in the realization of economic, social and cultural rights of the people of Guinea (Bangladesh);**

118.78 **Take further measures to address the difficulties regarding the registration of children at birth and to implement a universal birth registration strategy (Albania);**

118.79 **Intensify its efforts to ensure that all children are registered at birth, particularly in rural areas (Turkey);**

118.80 **Implement a comprehensive strategy for birth registration taking into account the particular situation of refugee children, former refugees and migrants (Côte d'Ivoire);**

118.81 **Establish the necessary conditions to register boys and girls at birth, including ensuring free birth certificates (Mexico);**

118.82 **Overcome prejudices against women and girls, and strive to eliminate stereotypes and harmful practices (China);**

118.83 **Consider adopting a comprehensive strategy addressing all forms of discrimination, particularly on promoting the rights of women, girls, and children with disabilities, children living in rural areas, children living in poverty, refugee children and children born out of wedlock (Albania);**

118.84 **Enhance efforts to fight all forms of discrimination against women by ensuring effective implementation of the existing legislation, by implementing a policy of equal work for equal pay, by developing a comprehensive national strategy to facilitate equal access of girls and women to all levels and fields of education (Italy);**

118.85 **Strengthen the fight against all forms of discrimination, particularly violence against women and girls, with special emphasis on the fight against sexual violence and female genital mutilation (Luxembourg);**

118.86 **Adopt measures to combat stereotypes that place women and girls at a disadvantage and further promote equality between men and women (Togo);**

118.87 **Take steps to legally ensure equal rights of children born of incestuous relationships or born out of wedlock, according to Article 378 of the Civil Code (Spain);**

118.88 **Decriminalize all homosexual activities and not to adopt any discriminatory measures against people on the basis of their sexual orientation (Italy);**

118.89 **Ensure to LGBTI persons the full enjoyment and equal treatment of their human rights by repealing norms that criminalize and stigmatize them (Argentina);**

118.90 **Undertake appropriate awareness-raising efforts, and strengthen the measures to guarantee the human rights of the residents of areas affected by Ebola virus outbreak with assistance from the international community (Japan);**

118.91 **Abolish the death penalty (France);**

118.92 **Abolish the death penalty (Timor-Leste);**

118.93 **Establish a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Uruguay);**

118.94 **Accelerate the process of abolishing the death penalty (Rwanda);**

118.95 **Accelerate and deepen investigations of complaints of torture and other ill-treatment (Chile);**

118.96 **Ensure and enforce prevention of all acts of torture, impartial investigation by independent courts and prosecution of committed perpetrators (Germany);**

118.97 **Intensify efforts to prosecute all alleged crimes of torture and illegal detention perpetrated by armed and security forces (Italy);**

118.98 **Ensure that law enforcement officers receive training on human rights norms and standards (Egypt);**

118.99 **Continue to provide effective training that builds the capacity of armed forces, police and other security forces on the protection of human rights especially, vulnerable groups (Ethiopia);**

118.100 **Continue providing human rights training to security and defence forces and ensure that violations committed by these forces are prosecuted (France);**

118.101 **Further emphasize the prevention of excessive use of force through security forces, especially in the handling of protests and demonstrations, including adequate training of security forces (Germany);**

118.102 **Take necessary steps to ensure that all allegations of torture are duly investigated, perpetrators prosecuted and the victims duly compensated. (Ghana);**

118.103 **That police and gendarmerie receive adequate training in crowd control and the use of force and firearms in line with international standards (Norway);**

118.104 **Intensify efforts in the fight against extrajudicial executions, rape and torture (Spain);**

118.105 **Step up efforts to improve the conditions of detention (Comoros);**

118.106 **Improve conditions of detention (Senegal);**

118.107 **Redouble its efforts to eradicate the problem of violence against women, in all its forms (Burundi);**

118.108 **Strengthen measures to prevent and supress all forms of gender violence and include in the penal code the various forms of sexual violence, including marital rape (Chile);**

118.109 **Prevent and punish all forms of violence especially that which targets women and girls, and ensure that the criminal code contains provisions covering the various forms of sexual violence (Egypt);**

118.110 **Take measures to prevent child, early and forced marriages, including through educational and advocacy campaigns to enforce existing legislation (Canada);**

118.111 **Observe the national law for all young girls with regards to the legal age of marriage and take firm action to prevent young girls from becoming victims of forced and early marriage, particularly in rural areas (Sweden);**

118.112 **Raise awareness among religious leaders, magistrates and different political actors with a view to combat sociocultural factors which run counter to the harmonious development of Guinean society (Democratic Republic of the Congo);**

118.113 **Consider taking steps towards strict implementation of its laws prohibiting traditional practices harmful to women and children (the Philippines);**

118.114 **Redouble its efforts to advance women's rights and eliminate harmful practices (India);**

118.115 **Continue to implement and build on efforts to address female genital mutilation/cutting, including by engaging state and non-state stakeholders in dialogue on education, programming, and legislation needed to eliminate this harmful practice and advance gender equality (United States of America);**

118.116 **Strengthen actions against discrimination, violence against women and female genital mutilation; ensure effective access to justice; and strengthen the implementation of sanctions against this type of crimes (Argentina);**

118.117 **Strengthen and broaden the Strategic Plan to effectively implement the prohibition of female genital mutilation, promoting a change in custom (Chile);**

118.118 **Step up efforts to definitively and rapidly eliminate the practice of female genital mutilation (Comoros);**

118.119 **Adopt a comprehensive strategy to fight against female genital mutilation, including the punishment of its perpetrators, educational and awareness-raising programmes as well as medical support to women and girls affected (Czech Republic);**

118.120 **Strengthen its efforts to combat traditional practices that are harmful to women and children, particularly, female genital mutilation (Ethiopia);**

118.121 **Combat violence against women, in particular female genital mutilation, by ensuring that these are systematically brought to justice and by raising awareness (France);**

118.122 **Redouble efforts aimed at reducing the high incidence of female genital mutilation and other practices that are harmful and discriminate against women (Ghana);**

118.123 **Take all necessary measures to ensure the effective enforcement of Law L010/AN/2000, with a view to the eradication of FGM, and to undertake additional awareness raising measures about the risks and harm associated with this practice as well as its prohibition (Ireland);**

118.124 **Make all efforts to apply existing national legislation in order to reduce the current rate of FGM in the country, including effective criminal prosecution of the practice, appropriate awareness campaigns, and education in schools (Italy);**

118.125 **Take adequate measures to combat female genital mutilation, that is to enforce existing legislation prohibiting FGM and to ensure that perpetrators of female genital mutilation are prosecuted (the Netherlands);**

118.126 **Implement measures to reduce violence against women, including domestic violence, spousal rape and female genital mutilation (FGM) (Norway);**

118.127 **Intensify its efforts to eradicate FGM (Portugal);**

118.128 **Prevent and punish all forms of violence against women, including the criminalization of marital rape and domestic violence (Portugal);**

118.129 **Strengthen the enforcement of existing legislation prohibiting female genital mutilation and at the same time enhance awareness-raising activities by focusing on the health risks of this harmful practice (Republic of Korea);**

118.130 **Redouble efforts to eliminate FGM and other harmful traditional practices, including through strict enforcement of the legal prohibition and increased awareness-raising of the harmful consequences of such practices (Slovenia);**

118.131 **Strengthen measures against the practice of female genital mutilation (South Africa);**

118.132 **Continue its efforts in combatting violence against women and girls, in particular the problems of female genital mutilation (Thailand);**

118.133 **Continue efforts to fight effectively against the socio-cultural and religious burden for the elimination of female genital mutilation (Togo);**

118.134 **Continue its efforts initiated to better protect the rights of vulnerable groups, particularly women and children (Senegal);**

118.135 **Follow-up on the implementation of guidelines to strengthen the promotion and protection of children's rights (Equatorial Guinea);**

118.136 **Redouble its efforts to strengthen protection measures to combat all forms of abuse and neglect against children, including all forms of child labour (Trinidad and Tobago);**

118.137 **Continue its efforts in the promotion and protection of the rights of its children (Brunei Darussalam);**

118.138 **Strengthen protection measures against child labour (Slovenia);**

118.139 **Strengthen its child protection systems at local level, investigate and prosecute cases of child labour and child abuse (Spain);**

118.140 **Continue its efforts to strengthen the rule of law and good governance (Singapore);**

118.141 **Take further steps to bring to justice the perpetrators of human rights violations, particularly those named in the United Nations Commission of Inquiry report into the crimes of 28 September 2009 (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

118.142 **Place indicted government officials on administrative leave pending conclusion of the investigation related to the 2009 stadium violence, and urge all members of the security forces to cooperate fully with the investigation (United States of America);**

118.143 **Promptly bring individuals accused of a crime before a judge to demonstrate commitment to respect the rule of law and Guinea's obligations under Article 9 of ICCPR (United States of America);**

118.144 **Continue to reform the judicial and security systems (Angola);**

118.145 **Ensure all allegations of human rights abuses by security forces are independently investigated and that perpetrators are held to account (Australia);**

118.146 **Strengthen measures to combat impunity within the security forces and bring all perpetrators to account (Botswana);**

118.147 **Take measures to ensure the independence of the judicial system over the executive, to ensure that the fight against corruption and the improvement of accountability are pursued (Canada);**

118.148 **Prosecute the perpetrators within the security forces who committed violent acts against demonstrators and opposition members, while providing the adequate resources to support impartial investigations and respecting international human rights law (Canada);**

118.149 **Accelerate judicial proceedings against the perpetrators of human rights violations committed in 2009, establish reparation mechanisms for victims and make operational the process of justice, truth and reconciliation (France);**

118.150 **Pursue the reform of the justice sector by implementing the plan of priority actions, including for the improvement of conditions of detention (France);**

118.151 **Ensure prompt and effective investigations into allegations of excessive use of force, and enforcement of judicial summons and prosecution of abuses committed (Germany);**

118.152 **Take further steps to promote national reconciliation and transitional justice, in particular with a view to complete investigation and prosecution of grave human rights violations committed in the 2009 massacre (Germany);**

118.153 **Further strengthen its efforts against the long-standing issue of widespread impunity (Japan);**

118.154 **Continue its efforts of reform in the criminal justice system, from the police to the courts, through the prison administration (Luxembourg);**

118.155 **Further strengthen its efforts in the fight against impunity, particularly in the context of the tragic events in Conakry on 28 September 2009 (Luxembourg);**

118.156 **Maintain close collaboration with the international system, in order to implement the decree established in 2012 on the rules of general discipline, by which human rights training could be provided to public officials (Mexico);**

118.157 **Conclude the investigation of the stadium massacre to ensure that those culpable be held to account (Norway);**

118.158 **Step up efforts to combat impunity, in particular through the investigation and prosecution of human rights violations committed by security forces (Republic of Korea);**

118.159 **Bring to justice the perpetrators of the slaughter of September 2009 and establish a witness protection mechanism for special cases (Spain);**

118.160 **Take immediate and concrete steps for justice and fight against impunity for the crimes and human rights violations that were committed against unarmed civilians in Conakry in 2009 (Sweden);**

118.161 **Guarantee and ensure full freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly of journalists, activists, human rights defenders and participants in demonstrations (Uruguay);**

118.162 **Implement the recommendations of the 2013 election observation missions and ensure that elections in 2015 and beyond, are free and fair and preceded by inclusive and free campaigning (Czech Republic);**

118.163 **Ensure the safety of journalists and independence of the media, including in the run-up to the elections, and the rigorous implementation of the Organic Law of 22 June 2010 on freedom of the press (Czech Republic);**

118.164 **Take the necessary measures to guarantee the right to peacefully demonstrate (France);**

118.165 **Fully guarantee freedom of expression and establish a national observatory for demonstrations, in particular with a view to elections (Germany);**

118.166 **Fully respect the right to freedom of peaceful assembly, effectively investigate all allegations of excessive and disproportionate use of force by law enforcement personnel and ensure that all perpetrators are held accountable for their actions (Ireland);**

118.167 **Take the requisite measures to increase the number of women in decision-making positions as per the quotas provided for in the Electoral Code of the country (Namibia);**

118.168 **Continue progress in the eradication of poverty, with the application of its sound social policies to improve the quality of life of its people, especially those most in need, with the necessary support of international cooperation (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**

118.169 **Strive to reduce hunger and poverty and guarantee the provision of basic necessities to vulnerable groups (Zimbabwe);**

118.170 **Continue its efforts and search for international cooperation to reduce hunger and poverty (Cuba);**

118.171 **Continue efforts which aim to alleviate poverty (Kuwait);**

118.172 **Collaborate with United Nations institutions to develop the agricultural sector in order to meet the daily food needs of the population (Kuwait);**

118.173 **Pull efforts to work on the poverty reduction strategy and promote sustainable development (Nicaragua);**

118.174 **Strengthen efforts on the implementation of Guinea's Poverty Reduction Strategy (South Africa);**

118.175 **Continue efforts to adopt an action plan for the employment of women (Algeria);**

118.176 **Adopt an action plan for the employment of women and young people (Morocco);**

118.177 **Continue promoting the right to work including to reduce the unemployment rate (Djibouti);**

118.178 **Take necessary measures in increasing and improving the quality of health care facilities (Thailand);**

118.179 **Undertake actions, with the support of the international community, aimed at improving access to health for the population (Cuba);**

118.180 **With the support of international community continue to strengthen the provision of healthcare services to its people, particularly women and children (Singapore);**

118.181 **Continue to engage with the international community and relevant international organizations and seek technical and financial assistance for institutional capacity building and strengthening public health systems (India);**

118.182 **Redouble its efforts in ensuring greater access to maternal and child health care services for women and children including by providing necessary health infrastructure in rural and urban areas (Malaysia);**

118.183 **Increase its efforts to combat HIV/AIDS by ensuring access to treatment and adequate health-care facilities and by ensuring that children living with HIV/AIDS have access to proper health care (Namibia);**

118.184 **Strengthen human rights and health care education (China);**

118.185 **Take the necessary measures to establish completely free primary education (Turkey);**

118.186 **Ensure equitable access to education and free education for all children, as well as to promote the rights of girls to education (Albania);**

118.187 **Ensure effective free education for all children; and ensure equitable access to education (Egypt);**

118.188 **Continue its efforts on the promotion of the right to education with a view of increasing the level of enrolment of girls and boys at primary schools (Malaysia);**

118.189 **Implement measures to ensure boys and girls have equal opportunity to education at all levels (Norway);**

118.190 **Ensure equal access to free and quality education for all children, and offer additional adult learning opportunities in order to increase literacy among the adult population (Slovenia);**

118.191 **Step up its efforts to achieve universal primary education and increase educational opportunities for illiterate people (Timor-Leste);**

118.192 **Provide particular attention to social groups which are in vulnerable situation, such as women, children, persons with disabilities and the elderly (Nicaragua);**

118.193 **Include human rights education in the school curricula (Sudan);**

118.194 **Strengthen human rights teaching in school programmes (Djibouti).**

119. All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.

Annex

[*English French only*]

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Guinea was headed by S.E. Mr. Khalifa Gassama Diaby, Minister of Human Rights and Civil Liberties, and composed of the following members:

- M. Aly Diane, Ambassadeur, Représentant permanent de la République de Guinée à Genève;
- M. Abdoulaye Balde, Ambassadeur, Directeur des Affaires juridiques et consulaires du Ministère des Affaires étrangères et des Guinéens à l'étranger;
- M. Pierre Sény Fofana, Conseiller diplomatique du Premier Ministre;
- M. Amirou Diawara, Conseiller technique du Ministre des Droits de l'Homme et des Libertés publiques;
- M. Elhadj Bassirou Diallo, Conseiller juridique du Ministre des Droits de l'Homme et des Libertés publiques;
- M. N'Famara Camara, Directeur national de la Promotion des Droits de l'Homme et des Libertés publiques;
- M. Mamadouba Keita, Directeur national des Affaires criminelles et des Grâces au Ministère de la Justice, Garde des Sceaux;
- Mme Laouratou Bah, Inspectrice générale au Ministère de l'Action sociale, de la Promotion féminine et de l'Enfance;
- Mme Hafsatou Diallo, Attachée de Cabinet au Ministère des Droits de l'Homme et des Libertés publiques;
- M. Aboubacar Cisse, Conseiller à la Mission permanente de la République de Guinée à Genève;
- M. Lanciné Toramba Traoré, Direction nationale de la Réglementation administrative et des Frontières du Ministère de l'Administration du Territoire et de la Décentralisation;
- Capitaine Mamady Sidibe, Point focal des Droits de l'homme du Ministère de la Sécurité et de la Protection civile;
- M. Amara Soumah, journaliste;
- M. Moussa Sylla, journaliste.